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Police eject season-high 48 people

Alcohol-related offenses prompt action at game

By KATE ANTONACCI
News Editor

Ejections spiked at the seniors' last home football game Saturday, as police forced 48 people to leave the stadium for intoxication or alcohol-related offenses, officials said.

"Unfortunately, a number of people — more than in past games — drank alcohol to the point of intoxication and were either not admitted to the stadium or ejected from the stadium. Some were arrested," said Phil Johnson, associate director of Notre Dame Security/Police. "These people let alcohol and intoxication get in the way of their safety and their fun — and it prevented them

from enjoying a great football game."

Though the number of ejections is the highest this season, it is far less than the 181 ejections police made at last year's final home football game.

Johnson said that since this was the last game of the season, officers were particularly concerned about the "safety of those whose celebration of the day included consumption of alcohol."

Twenty-eight arrest tickets were issued to adults for violations of liquor laws, Johnson said. Ten people were also denied entry to the stadium for intoxication and were released to "a responsible adult."

Three people were arrested at the stadium for public intoxication, Johnson said.

Despite the noticeable increase in the amount of marshmallows thrown

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DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Students throw marshmallows at the football game Saturday. Police made a season-high number of ejections.

University seeks out new VP

Position will focus on research, technology

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

Notre Dame has launched a nationwide search for a vice president for research, a newly created position to direct the University's efforts to become a top research institution, said University Provost Tom Burish.

"The Office of the Vice President for Research will focus on helping to create and implement a strategy that will strengthen the research efforts at Notre Dame," Burish said.

The new vice president will work with various offices, deans and department chairs to strengthen the support of research programs at the University, he said.

"We are looking for a person who, himself or herself, has a research record, who is an accomplished scholar," Burish said.

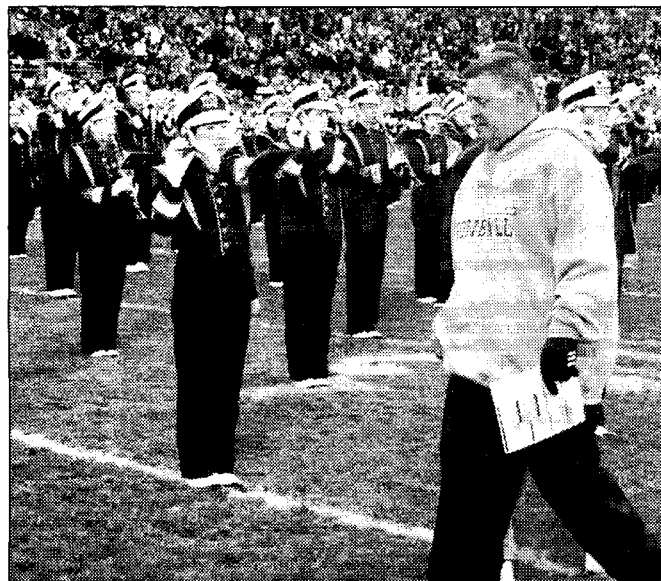
The person who is picked to fill this position will be someone "who can work well with the faculty, who is willing to work toward ambitious goals and who has an appreciation for the many areas of the University that can reach toward this ambitious goal," Burish said.

Burish created an ad hoc committee on graduate studies and research in November 2005 to recommend the best way to organize the offices that oversee graduate studies and research. In a letter to Frank Incropera, dean of the College of Engineering and

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75 band members will travel to USC

Unscheduled trip made at Charlie Weis' request; group will leave Saturday at 8 a.m.



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Football coach Charlie Weis walks past the marching band at the Army game Saturday.

By JOHN PAUL WITT
News Writer

On a mission to help the Fighting Irish bring home a victory, 75 members of the Notre Dame Band will perform at the Notre Dame-USC football game Saturday — a trip planned at the request of head football coach Charlie Weis.

Band officials did not comment on funding for the group's last-minute trip to Los Angeles, but assistant band director Lawrence Dwyer said they were "delighted" to be able to make the trip.

The USC-bound band will con-

sist primarily of members who play easily heard instruments — mostly brass and percussion — and of the most experienced and dedicated juniors and seniors, said band vice president Michelle Manrique.

Last month, band director Ken Dye received a personal call from Weis to ask if it was possible to send part of the band with the football team to the USC game, Dwyer said. Junior and senior band members were encouraged to apply, Dwyer said, and those with the most seniority and loudest instruments were selected.

"We're not going to have fun. We're going to give our team the edge," said senior drum major Brad Fleming.

The band will fly out at 8 a.m.

see BAND/page 4

See Also

"ND Club welcomes fans" page 3

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Mooney speaks at group meeting

College president asks members about SMC's strengths, weaknesses



KATE FENLON/The Observer

College President Carol Ann Mooney speaks at the BOG meeting Monday.

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

College President Carol Ann Mooney visited the Saint Mary's Board of Governance meeting Monday to discuss the College's strengths and weaknesses.

Mooney asked BOG members a series of questions to gather information and help assess what the College's priorities should be for the next five years.

In the past, Mooney held four question-and-answer sessions in Vander Vennet Theater for students, but not many people attended.

see MOONEY/page 4

Campus empties as Thanksgiving nears

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

During a much-needed academic respite this Thanksgiving, Notre Dame students are offering gratitude for family, friends, food and two-and-a-half inch television screens.

"I would say I've never needed a break more," said sophomore Nicholas Krienke. "It's just the daily grind, I guess. I'm feeling it more than ever."

Morrissey sophomore Andrew Parnell was sneaking out early, walking to catch the shuttle to Chicago's O'Hare airport Monday afternoon. He was planning to fly to Washington D.C., where his two older brothers have recently purchased a home, then carpool with

them back to their hometown of Rockville, Md., on Thursday — where big plans await them.

Thanksgiving Day begins bright and early at the Parnell home, with the family running the annual 5K Rockville Turkey Chase. Back at home, Parnell said, he and his three siblings will help their mom cook before the relatives arrive in the early afternoon. Playing a football game or two in the backyard, plus watching one on TV, is in order, he said.

"The extended family comes to our house for Thanksgiving because it's our holiday," Parnell said. "We're really family-oriented ... I love Thanksgiving."

And for the students lucky enough to have scored tickets to

see BREAK/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Did you know?

Since Thanksgiving break is soon upon us, I decided to do a little research into the history and origin of this famous holiday. I was interested to see what the pilgrims ate at their first feast, where it was held and other facts of this nature.

Kate Fenlon

Photographer

In the United States, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Sunday in November. It was originally held for three days in 1621 in Plymouth, Mass. It is known as Harvest Festival in the United Kingdom and is celebrated at the end of the Harvest Festival but is not as well celebrated as Christmas or Easter.

It did not become an actual holiday until 1863. Abraham Lincoln was the president who decided that Thanksgiving should fall on the last Thursday of the month. But Dwight D. Eisenhower moved the holiday to the next to last Thursday of the month in an effort to create a longer shopping season for Christmas.

In terms of food, the pilgrims were not consuming the modern dishes we do today such as turkey, corn and beans. They did eat venison and wild fowl. They also did not use forks to eat their food — rather they used spoons, knives and fingers.

Regarding the use of salt and pepper: Salt would be available on the table but pepper would be used solely in cooking. Also, what an individual would eat depended on his or her social standing. The most important people received the best food. Individuals never asked for food to be passed — they simply ate what was in front of them.

Unfortunately, the pilgrims did not consume any pie or sweets after dinner because the small supply of sugar they brought over on the Mayflower had diminished by the time Thanksgiving had rolled around. They also did not have an oven to bake it in if they did have the necessary ingredients.

In regards to modern Thanksgiving in 2005, the six states that produce the most amounts of turkeys were Minnesota, North Carolina, Arkansas, Virginia, Missouri and California. Approximately 90 percent of Americans consume turkey on Thanksgiving and only 50 percent eat it on Christmas. Ham and pasta are popular alternatives to the traditional Thanksgiving feast.

Compared to the early Thanksgiving, adults are generally also served first while children eat second and are often placed at another table in a separate room. One would think that the United States consumes the most turkey per capita a year, but it is actually Israel.

After comparing the similarities and differences between the historic and modern Thanksgivings it was interesting to see how it evolved and became one of the most popular holidays of the year. Students will be traveling to all different parts of the U.S. whether by air, car or bus. But the best way to start off the holiday season will be a win on Saturday in the infamous Coliseum. After that, it's only 30 days till Christmas.

Contact Kate Fenlon at kfenlo01@saintmarys.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S THE BEST PART ABOUT A NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL GAME?



Jim Murphy
freshman
Dillon

"Doing push-ups."



Chris Harrington
junior
Dillon

"Spooning with my roommates for three hours."



Anastasia Kaloydis
sophomore
LeMans

"The wave."



Jonathan Boyle
sophomore
Fisher

"Painting the helmets."



Christina Luchetta
sophomore
off campus

"Hearing Anastasia getting yelled at for trying to start the wave."



John Henderson
senior
off campus

"Tailgating and marshmallow fights to the point where you get stuck to the bench."



CHRIS MASSAD/The Observer

Student managers paint the famous golden helmets in Notre Dame Stadium Monday.

IN BRIEF

Faculty, staff, students and the general public are all invited to watch Chicago artist Esperanza Gama construct this year's altar for the annual Day of the Dead celebration at the Snite Museum between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. today. The altar will be dedicated to those who died crossing the United States-Mexico border. Admission is free.

A colloquium on "Simplifying the Nuclear Many-Body Problem with the Renormalization Group," featuring Dr. Scott Bogner of Ohio State University, will take place today between 2 p.m. and 3:30 in room 127 of the Nieuwland Science Hall.

At 8 p.m. today in the Reyes Organ and Choral Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, the department of music will honor its patron saint Cecilia on her feast day with a concert of sacred music. Notre Dame faculty and students will perform a program featuring Gregorian chant as well as the works of Henry Purcell and Lou Harrison.

The "Quantam Gravity" colloquium, scheduled to take place Wednesday and feature Dr. Lee Smolin of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Ontario, Canada, has been postponed until Jan. 17, 2007.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu

OFFBEAT

Missouri's Tightwad bank to close

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A small-town bank that drew \$2.2 million in deposits from around the country because of its unusual name will close Jan. 31.

The Tightwad Bank opened on a shoestring 22 years ago in the small community along Missouri 7 halfway between Clinton and Warsaw.

Now, UMB Bank Warsaw, which operates the bank, is cutting costs and has urged customers to do their banking at its branches in Clinton and Warsaw.

Officials at UMB, a sub-

sidiary of UMB Financial Corp., would not elaborate on the decision.

iPod glow leads to lost mushroom picker

CORVALLIS, Ore. — An iPod screen glowing in the middle of the night from thick underbrush led rescuers to a mushroom picker lost in the woods.

The search leader said Pini Nou, 25, of Vancouver, Wash., was on his first outing and got separated from his mother, an experienced mushroom hunter. At nightfall, she called Benton County authorities for help.

Nou used his cell phone to

describe the landscape to rescuers as best he could in the darkness, said Peggy Peirson, acting county emergency management coordinator. They finally located him after 1 a.m. Friday when a member of a search and rescue team saw the light from the iPod, she said. Nou, lacking a flashlight, had been using the music device for light, Peirson said. She said the underbrush was so thick it took rescuers more than 20 minutes to reach Nou once they saw the glow.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THANKSGIVING	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 55 LOW 52	HIGH 43 LOW 40	HIGH 58 LOW 45	HIGH 55 LOW 45	HIGH 58 LOW 30	HIGH 45 LOW 27

Atlanta 48 / 33 Boston 46 / 33 Chicago 50 / 28 Denver 76 / 37 Houston 70 / 36 Los Angeles 81 / 54 Minneapolis 44 / 33 New York 51 / 35 Philadelphia 50 / 35 Phoenix 84 / 56 Seattle 48 / 42 St. Louis 60 / 28 Tampa 60 / 41 Washington 47 / 32

ND club welcomes fans

Alumni Association aids students traveling to USC

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Irish fans will be in Trojan territory for Saturday's football game against USC, and the Notre Dame Club of Orange County (NDCOC) has big plans to welcome them — including a VIP-packed pep rally and even a Thanksgiving feast.

"We've got people coming in for the game from across the nation as early as [Monday]. ... Even though there are fewer tickets, the excitement generated by the game [has caused] some people to come out even without tickets," said Tony Roberts, president of NDCOC.

Even if fans aren't able to snag tickets for the game, the NDCOC has activities planned for the entire game weekend. High anticipation for the match-up prompted club members to be "more creative" with their programming, Roberts said.

The Club made arrangements with the Anaheim Marriott to reserve more than 1,000 hotel rooms — about 650 more rooms than the last time Notre Dame played at USC. The rooms are offered at a reduced rate of \$79 for those who signed up for it through the club's Web site.

The NDCOC even arranged with the Anaheim Marriott to have a Thanksgiving meal available for fans who will be arriving before Thursday, and on Friday they will host a pep rally at the hotel.

Heisman Trophy winner Tim

Brown will speak at the rally, and former Notre Dame football players such as Derrick Mayes, Rick DiBernardo, Joey Getherall, Brock Williams and Shane Walton are expected to make an appearance. Alumni Association Director Chuck Lennon will be the emcee and Roberts expects between 800 and 1,000 people to attend the pep rally.

On Sunday morning, the Club of Orange County will host a Communion Breakfast with Charlie Weis, and the event, Roberts said, already has more than 700 confirmed guests.

NDCOC will provide charter buses from the Anaheim Marriott to the Coliseum.

Roberts said the Notre Dame Alumni Association has been essential in helping the NDCOC plan many of the events for the game weekend.

"Coordination is critical. ... The Alumni Association has done great things to help us get guest speakers," Roberts said.

The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore will also be setting up shop at USC for eager fans who want to purchase Notre Dame merchandise. Manager Kathy McJowan said bookstore products are usually sold at about three away games each year.

"It has been a tremendous year for ND products everywhere, and alumni love to see the bookstore," McJowan said.

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"Coordination is critical ... The Alumni Association has done great things to help us get guest speakers."

Tony Roberts
NDCOC president

Students can use new online service to secure bowl tickets

By JEN METZ
News Writer

As winter begins to fall on Notre Dame's campus, many Irish fans are dreaming of heading to warmer climates — New Orleans, Miami, Pasadena or Phoenix, to be exact.

Those cities play host to the BCS Bowl games, and as of now, Notre Dame's chances of playing in one of them are high. Through TicketReserve, students can act now to make sure they're at the game to cheer on the team — and enjoy the weather.

"The TicketReserve is a revolutionary and fun idea that allows the average fan admittance into huge sporting events at affordable prices," said Liz Flannery of Clutch Media and Marketing in Harrison, NY.

According to Clutch Media's press release for TicketReserve, "the Allstate Sugar Bowl, FedEx Orange Bowl, Rose Bowl and Tostitos Fiesta Bowl have always been among the toughest post-season tickets in sports."

"Our main goal is for fans to see their teams," said Andy Leach, president of TicketReserve.

With the TicketReserve service, students can reserve tickets by purchasing a FanForward pass in what Leach calls a "fan-to-fan market."

Available packages include the stand-alone National Championship Game in Phoenix, BCS All-Access and

Elite Non-BCS All-Access.

If Notre Dame advances to a Bowl Game that falls under the FanForward package a student purchases, tickets to that game are then made available to them at face value prices.

Initially, FanForward package prices are "as low as \$10 to \$20, and increase or decrease as the respective fortunes of college football teams rise and fall during the 2006 season," according to the press release.

As of Monday, the lowest price for a FanForward pass for Notre Dame in the National Championship Game was \$90 and \$110 for a BCS All-Access pass.

The additional face value cost of a Bowl Game ticket is listed as "TBD" with an estimated price range of \$95-220 on the TicketReserve Web site, www.theticketreserve.com.

A maximum of eight FanForward passes can be purchased per team per household. No specific seating assignment is given to FanForward pass holders, but reserved seats will be located next to each other in the "seating zone" listed on the Web site for a given event.

With a FanForward purchase, tickets are guaranteed due to "a direct agreement

with the Bowls themselves [... so] tickets are reserved before the market opens," Leach said.

After purchase, FanForwards can be sold on the TicketReserve market until the BCS pairings show in December. If unwanted FanForwards are not sold at this point, the initial investment is lost.

"Every year college football fans across the country yearn to attend elite bowl games of their favorite teams," Rick

Harmon, CEO of TicketReserve, said. "Now, this innovative partnership can reward those dedicated and passionate fans in a fun and affordable way."

Paul Hoolahan, CEO of the Allstate Sugar Bowl, promoted the online service — which offers distinct advantages to ticket auctions or scalping.

"This partnership is unique and exciting and will provide a tremendous value for college football fans," Hoolahan said. "The TicketReserve has a great reputation for servicing fans for large-scale sporting events, and we have great confidence in their ability to do so again for the Allstate Sugar Bowl."

"This partnership is unique and exciting and will provide a tremendous value for college football fans."

Paul Hoolahan
CEO Allstate Sugar Bowl

Contact Jen Metz at
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StudentUniverse.com

Mooney

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"Either my message wasn't clear enough about the importance of this [information] or the timing [of the sessions] was bad," Mooney said. "[BOG is], at the moment, the student perspective on this."

Members praised the College for its development of leaders and the high number of extra-curricular activities offered to students. There were a few aspects of the College, however, that members described as needing improvement.

"I have a lot of issues with diversity on campus," Student Diversity Board president Angelina Johnson said.

Johnson said she would like to see more diversity in the classroom. She would also like diversity training for faculty, staff, BOG members and the resident assistants in the dormitories.

The College needs to work towards having more students open to diversity, Johnson said. But she also said Saint Mary's is on the right track to becoming more diverse.

Mooney asked Johnson what she believed was standing in the way of student support for diversity.

"I think that students who don't already feel that diversity is important [may not feel that diversity events] would include them," Johnson said, adding that it just might not be one of their main concerns.

Athletic commissioner Anne Cusak brought up the need for funding, staffing and recruiting for the athletic department. If these issues are addressed, she said, it would improve the College.

Cusak also said the College needs a swimming pool, since the Regina Hall pool closed earlier this fall.

"An Olympic sized swimming pool costs \$1 million a year to run," Mooney said. "We need one but it [costs a lot of money]."

The group also discussed the stereotype of Saint Mary's women as unintelligent and second-class.

"I think the students who have the hardest time with [the stereotype] is the first-year students," said student trustee Julie Malone. "Oftentimes [new students] are unaware that the stereotype exists, and it can turn inward and [students] can lose pride in being a Saint Mary's woman."

Student body president Susan McIlhuff said she would like to see more information about what it really means to attend a women's college.

"As a senior I still do not really know what it means to go to a women's college," she said.

Mooney said articulating that meaning is "one of the challenges" the College faces, since most of the information on the topic is from the 1990s.

Mooney said surveys that are sent out via e-mail to seniors and freshmen during the spring semester help reveal what is uniquely beneficial at a women's college.

Mooney also addressed the question of retaining beauty and security at the College in light of the current construction of the Hilton Garden Inn on the outskirts of campus.

"I have talked extensively with the Sisters [of the Holy Cross] about this," Mooney said. "[The hotel] is going to be beautifully landscaped and we'll do what we can to keep the same look of the College."

Mooney also addressed concern about safety for students living in Opus Apartments.

"The security issue works two ways," she added. "Opus, at the moment, is isolated in one corner of the campus. Having more people around and moving around actually increases safety. Isolation doesn't always create safety."

Even though Madeleva Drive

will be moved closer to Opus Apartments due to the construction of the Hilton, Mooney said, the space has been measured and if the College wanted to build more on-campus apartments, they would fit in the space comfortably.

BOG members brought up many more issues, such as having more 24-hour spaces for students to study. They also suggested reducing the number of first-year students in McCandless Hall, as well as promoting the College's W program (a mandatory writing proficiency program) and the Senior Composition program.

Mooney discussed the identity initiative and addressed rumors about the College not being allowed to use the French Cross logo on items sold in the bookstore.

There has been discussion about changing the College logo, which includes the French Cross, Mooney said, but the use of the Cross will not be restricted completely.

The Cross is a religious symbol and therefore must be used appropriately, Mooney said.

Mooney stressed that Monday's meeting was just for brainstorming and not a session where ideas needed to be completely fleshed out.

"If I hear the same thing [in my different information gathering sessions], then I know I need to start paying attention to it," Mooney said.

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VP

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chair of the committee, Burish listed the committee's responsibilities and the topics it should explore.

"The University's long-range goal is to support distinctive, leading-edge research that is consistent with and that advances the University's overall mission," Burish said in his letter.

The committee produced a report titled "A New Beginning" in May. In this report, the committee said "the University's leaders must develop a compelling research message and communicate it clearly and often to all constituents."

The majority of committee members recommended the University rearrange the administrative structure of research and graduate studies, so the head of the Graduate School would be a dean and the head of the Office of Research would be a vice president and an officer of the University.

The committee members expressed their judgment that

Notre Dame "can and should ... become a high impact 21st century research University."

With this in mind, the Academic Council named a five-person search committee last week to find candidates for the vice president position. Neil Delaney, director of the Arts and Letters Honors Program and a philosophy professor, sociology professor Maureen Hallinan, aerospace and mechanical engineering professor Steve Batill, chemistry and biochemistry professor Richard Taylor and physics professor Malgorzata Dobrowolska-Furdyna have been named to sit on the committee.

Dobrowolska-Furdyna said the committee will meet with Burish later this week to discuss their course of action.

"I think it's a very important position and definitely we are all hoping that the new vice president will help us move up to the next level," she said.

Burish said he hopes to see the new vice president in position for the beginning of the next academic year.

University President Father John Jenkins and Burish have both made clear in public

addresses over the last year and a half their objective to make Notre Dame a preeminent research institution.

Jenkins told faculty in his annual address that while Notre Dame is not now regarded as a premier research university, it has the potential to become one.

In his October address to the faculty, Burish introduced his plan to create a steering committee that will work to advance the University's research mission while the new vice president is being chosen.

"The goal of the steering committee is to seek ideas from inside and outside the University on how we can creatively, successfully and strategically invest new dollars with those that are already available to focus on a small number of research areas that can truly become among the preeminent research areas in the country and beyond," Burish said.

The steering committee will make recommendations on research areas that have the potential to become nationally ranked programs, Burish said.

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Break

continued from page 1

the much-hyped football game versus USC, Thanksgiving won't be forgotten.

Senior Ashley O'Keefe is headed to Los Angeles, so when she went home to West Virginia for a visit last week, the family celebrated Thanksgiving early. Plus, she said, her older brother will be at the USC game with her.

Some students, on the other hand, are bringing Thanksgiving to USC.

Ten relatives are accompanying Katie Burns, a sophomore from Grand Rapids, Mich., to the game in Los Angeles — including her always-prepared mother, who will cook a feast at Burns' uncle's home in Irvine, Calif.

"My mom is actually bringing all of her cooking supplies, like her rolling pin and her apron and stuff," Burns said. "I am honestly looking forward to spending time with my family. Since my uncle lives so far away, I don't get to see him very often, so it's nice that I'll be able to have a pretty big Thanksgiving this year."

If they can't be at the game, students said they plan to watch it on television — or tape it, in sophomore Lennie Giannone's case.

"It's actually me and my girlfriend's anniversary, to be honest," Giannone said. "We don't have concrete plans, but I don't think they're going to involve watching football."

Other students, like sophomore Matthew Posluszny, will be

watching the game no matter what stands in their way — even holy matrimony.

Posluszny is a groomsman in his aunt's wedding Saturday afternoon, and his presence is naturally requested at that evening's reception. In case there's no television, he and his father have purchased a two-and-a-half inch screen television. If there is a bar with a television, he said, he's certainly not going to be out on the dance floor.

"I'll be getting a nice Bud[weiser] and sitting down to watch the game with my pops there," he said. "It's antisocial, but football comes first."

While many students are planning on sleeping for much of the break, senior Kelsey Miller reported that she'll be doing "about a billion" graduate school applications and research papers — though she did think she'd have time for some "straight chilling" with her extended family in Sacramento, Calif. (Miller applied for USC tickets through the student lottery, but was unsuccessful.)

Miller also expressed concern about the safety of her off-campus home on Corby Street during her and her roommates' absence.

"I'm very afraid our house is going to get robbed. We live in a ... a safety-handicapped, criminality-inclined neighborhood," Miller said. "But we've been brainstorming ... we're going to lock all our doors and leave some lights on. We might also call the five-o to drive by at night."

For students who are staying in town during the break, North

Dining Hall will serve a Thanksgiving buffet Thursday from noon until 3:30 p.m., consisting of turkey, ham and "other Thanksgiving staples," according to NDH manager Reggie Kalili. For students with a meal plan, the buffet is free, and for the general public, it costs \$15.25 (though children under 12 are admitted for half-price).

"We don't actively recruit non-students, but we do get a lot of guests who have heard about the buffet over the years," Kalili said. "People come from town as well as faculty and staff."


Freshman Natalie Burke, a native of England whose family now lives in the Cayman Islands, was just planning to stay in South Bend with her brother, senior Mike Burke — after all, their family doesn't celebrate Thanksgiving. But hearing about her friends' plans prompted her to purchase a ticket home at the last minute.

"I was going to stay here with Mike and we were going to try to cook a Thanksgiving dinner and probably fail miserably," she said. "But I kind of got all caught up in the whole thing of people getting excited about going home. It started rubbing off on me, and it made me want to go home, in a way. It'll just be a long weekend away for me, because we're not going to be celebrating Thanksgiving at home."

"It's probably not much-needed," she said, "but it's certainly much-appreciated."

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Birthday,
Magdalena!
Love,
mom and dad*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sudan hails deal with U.N. as victory

KHARTOUM, Sudan — President Omar al-Bashir's government on Monday hailed a new agreement with the United Nations over peacekeepers in Darfur as a diplomatic breakthrough for Sudan, but said serious differences remain over the force's makeup and command.

It was the first official word by Khartoum of its acceptance of the deal, announced Thursday in Addis Ababa. But there were signs the government might still resist hopes for a robust U.N. deployment to bring an end to the continuing bloodshed.

U.N. chief Kofi Annan said the deal calls for a mixed U.N.-African Union force of up to 20,000 troops. If so, that would mean a dramatic reversal of Khartoum's staunch resistance to deploying any U.N. troops in Darfur.

Leader vows to rule by Islamic law

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The president of a semiautonomous region in northeastern Somalia said Monday he will rule according to Islamic law, a surprising announcement in an area that has resisted the spread of Islamic militants who control much of the country's south.

Puntland President Gen. Addeh Museh did not cite a reason for his decision, but it comes amid increasing fears that the Council of Islamic Courts will try to seize his territory.

The move also isolates Somalia's official government, which has watched helplessly as the Islamic movement steadily gained ground since June. The U.N. envoy to Somalia tried to bolster the fragile administration Monday, urging leaders to restart peace talks with the Islamists in order to avert a war.

NATIONAL NEWS

Elderly driver sentenced to probation

LOS ANGELES — An 89-year-old man whose car hurtled through a farmers market, killing 10 people, was let off on probation Monday by a judge who said he believed the defendant deserved to go prison but was too ill.

George Russell Weller was convicted Oct. 20 of 10 counts of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence in a case that renewed debate over whether elderly people should lose their driver's licenses.

Weller, confined to a sickbed, was not in court for his sentencing.

Superior Court Judge Michael Johnson said he agreed completely with the jury and called Weller's actions callous and showing "an enormous indifference to human life."

Man charged for enabling Hezbollah

NEW YORK — A man was charged Monday with supporting terrorists by enabling customers to obtain satellite broadcasts of a Hezbollah television station, the second person accused in a case that has drawn scrutiny over how far the government can go in claiming someone is aiding terrorist groups.

Saleh Elahwal, 53, of Matawan, N.J., and Javed Iqbal, 42, of Staten Island, could each face up to 110 years in prison if they are convicted of all 11 counts in a rewritten indictment unsealed Monday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. They pleaded not guilty.

Lawyers for both declined to comment outside court.

LOCAL NEWS

Police find 14 illegal immigrants

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Fourteen illegal immigrants were discovered in a minivan that a state trooper pulled over for speeding on the Indiana Toll Road.

The 11 adults, 10 Mexican nationals and a woman from El Salvador, and three teenagers, two from Mexico and one from El Salvador, were taken into custody by state police Saturday. They have since been turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.

The passengers told police they had not eaten for two days because the minivan driver refused to feed them since they had no money.

IRAQ

Syrian-Iraq relations to resume

Officials see reinstating diplomatic ties as movement towards slowing violence

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — After nearly a quarter-century of severed ties, Iraq said Monday it will resume diplomatic relations with neighboring Syria — a move seen as a possible step toward stemming some of the unrelenting violence, which claimed another 100 lives.

The Iraqi and Syrian presidents also received invitations from Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to a weekend summit in Tehran to tackle the chaos in Iraq, Iraqi lawmakers said. Iraqi President Jalal Talabani's spokesman said his boss would attend but that Syrian President Bashar Assad would not. The invitation was thought to be an attempt by Iran to counter U.S. influence in the region.

The announcement of restored Iraqi-Syrian ties came during a groundbreaking visit to Baghdad by Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Moallem, who was challenged over Damascus' role in supporting the Sunni insurgency.

"We object to any neighboring country that allows itself to be a base or a transit point for the terrorist groups that harm Iraq," Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said after meeting with the Syrian envoy.

Al-Maliki told Moallem that Damascus should not let its disputes with the United States be played out in Iraq, where the chaos and bloodshed has become "a danger that threatens all, not Iraq only."

Asked about the Syrian's visit, State Department deputy spokesman Tom Casey said "the problem is not what they say but what they do."

"Certainly what we would like to see the Syrians do is take actions to, among other things, prevent foreign fighters from coming across the border into Iraq; and, again, to back up the positive words that they



Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, right, meets with Syria's Foreign Minister Walid Moallem in Baghdad Monday. Iraq has said the two nations will resume diplomatic ties.

have with some real concrete steps," Casey said.

Moallem arrived in Iraq on Sunday in the first such high-level visit by a Syrian official since the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime in 2003. He was expected to return to Damascus on Tuesday.

"Diplomatic relations will be restored between the two countries during the visit," Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said.

Syria broke diplomatic ties with Iraq in 1982, accusing Iraq of inciting riots by the banned Muslim Brotherhood in Syria. Damascus also sided with

Iran in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Trade ties were restored in 1997.

More recently, Syria is widely believed to have done little to stop foreign fighters and al-Qaida recruits from crossing its border to join Sunni insurgents in Iraq. It also has provided refuge for many top members of Saddam's former leadership and political corps, which is thought to have organized arms and funding for the insurgents. The Sunni insurgency, since it sprang to life in the late summer of 2003, has been responsible for the vast majority of U.S. deaths in Iraq.

A U.S. soldier was killed by a roadside bomb in Baghdad on Saturday night and a U.S. Marine died during combat in Anbar province on Sunday, the military said, raising to at least 2,865 the number of U.S. service members who have died since the beginning of the Iraq war. This month in Iraq, 47 American service members have been killed or died.

The Iraqi death toll, meanwhile, rose to at least 1,371 for the first 20 days of November — the highest for any month since The Associated Press began tracking the figure in April 2005.

Murdoch cancels Simpson's book

Associated Press

NEW YORK — O.J. Simpson's book and TV special were canceled Monday, an astonishing end to an imaginary confession that had sickened the public as the very worst kind of tabloid sensation.

"I and senior management agree with the American public that this was an ill-considered project," said Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corp. owns both Fox Broadcasting and publisher HarperCollins. "We are sorry for any pain that this has caused the families of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson."

"If I Did It," in which Simpson was to have described how he would have killed his ex-wife, had been scheduled

to air as a two-part interview Nov. 27 and Nov. 29 on Fox. The book was to have followed on Nov. 30.

HarperCollins spokeswoman Erin Crum said some copies had already been shipped to stores but would be recalled, and all copies would be destroyed.

"I think News Corp. finally stepped up, admitted they made a mistake and did the right thing," said Jonathan Polak, the lawyer for Fred Goldman, Ron's father. "This is everything we have been asking News Corp. to do for the past two weeks. We want to thank the American people for helping make this happen."

Simpson's attorney, Yale Galanter, told The Associated Press: "We had known for three or four days that this

was a possibility."

Galanter said he did not know whether the deal between Simpson and News Corp. was contingent on a TV interview being shown or a book arriving in stores.

"There are only three possible reactions: anger, happiness or indifference. He's totally indifferent about the fact that it's been canceled," said Galanter, who added that he didn't know if Simpson was paid upfront.

Any hopes of commercial reward were quickly overwhelmed by near universal revulsion to last week's announcement — from those who knew Goldman and Brown, from booksellers and advertisers, even from Fox News Channel personality Bill O'Reilly.

U.S. wary of Iran, Syria in Iraq

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration cast a wary eye Monday on signs that Iran and Syria were taking a more active diplomatic role in Iraq, even as debate in the U.S. centered on how many troops to keep in the war.

Just days after reports that U.S. officials were discussing a broader role for Iran and Syria, Iraqi lawmakers said Iranian leaders had invited the Iraqi and Syrian presidents for a weekend summit. A State Department official said that while strong relations between the three countries were encouraged, actions would speak louder than words.

In the past, said deputy spokesman Tom Casey, "while there have been positive statements from the Iranian government about wishing to play a positive role in Iraq, those statements haven't been backed up by actions."

He offered a similar assessment of Syria, saying the problem "is not what they say; the problem is what they do. ... What we would like to see the Syrians do is take actions to, among other things,

prevent foreign fighters from coming across the border into Iraq."

At the same time, there have been indications that a special U.S. advisory commission is considering recommendations that could include a broader role in the region by Syria and Iran. The Iraq Study Group, led by Bush family friend and former Secretary of State James Baker and former Rep. Lee Hamilton, is expected to issue its report soon.

But members of the commission have expressed concern that working with Iran and Syria could require America "to enter into a de facto partnership with them," with possible trade-offs, said the official, who requested anonymity because the group's discussions have not been made public.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter said Monday that the U.S. needs to push more Iraqi security forces to the front lines. Other Americans, including some military officials, have suggested boosting U.S. troop levels to help train the Iraqis.

President Bush said Monday he wasn't ready to decide between the rival calls for more or fewer U.S. troops on the ground.

Referring to the Iraqi security forces, Hunter told The Associated Press, "We need to saddle those up and deploy them to the fight" in dangerous areas, primarily in Baghdad. Hunter, a California Republican who is interested in his party's 2008 presidential nomination, took a different tack from Sen. John McCain, a front-running 2008 hopeful who has urged that additional U.S. troops be sent.

Pace has asked a group of about 16 military members, largely colonels who have recently served in the Gulf region, to look at what is going right or wrong in the war and to discuss options for progress. The group is not expected to submit a report, but Pace will use any thoughts and options coming out of the review to help develop his own recommendations for the defense secretary and the president.

Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell, a military spokesman in Iraq, said Monday that adding more U.S. forces would "achieve a short-term solution, but it's not going to achieve a long-term effect. ... The key to this thing is we have got to get the Iraqi security forces able to operate in an independent manner, on their own."

Arrests

continued from page 1

in the student section at halftime, Johnson did not say if any of the arrests or citations were marshmallow-related.

Outside the stadium, police made six custodial arrests, three for public intoxication, one for liquor law violation and two for liquor law violation, false informing and possession of false identification. All offenders who were arrested were transported to St. Joseph County jail, Johnson said.

Two men were also arrested for criminal trespass and for re-selling football tickets on campus, "having previously been issued warnings," Johnson said.

One man was arrested for public intoxication following a

fight. Police are still investigating the matter, Johnson said.

"The matter will be referred to the Prosecutor's Office for review," he said.

In addition, two people were issued trespass warnings after disregarding "officers' requests to stop drinking alcohol during the game in the parking lot," Johnson said.

NDSP was assisted outside the stadium by Indiana State Excise Police, South Bend Police and St. Joseph County Police.

"Police and security staff patrol parking lots to help promote a family friendly game day environment and to enforce Indiana laws regarding alcohol," Johnson said. "This is not an undercover operation."

"Police and security staff patrol parking lots to help promote a family friendly game day environment and to enforce Indiana laws regarding alcohol."

Phil Johnson
associate director
Notre Dame
Security/Police

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Man who killed 10 released

89-year-old convicted of vehicular manslaughter now on probation

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An 89-year-old man whose car hurtled through a farmers market, killing 10 people, was let off on probation Monday by a judge who said he believed the defendant deserved to go to prison but was too ill.

George Russell Weller was convicted Oct. 20 of 10 counts of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence in a case that renewed debate over whether elderly people should lose their driver's licenses.

Weller, confined to a sickbed, was not in court for his sentencing.

Superior Court Judge Michael Johnson said he agreed completely with the jury and called Weller's actions callous and showing "an enormous indifference to human life."

Weller was 86 when his 1992 Buick Le Sabre plowed at free-way speed into the crowded farmers market on July 16, 2003. In addition to the 10 killed, more than 70 people were injured.

Weller could have received up to 18 years in prison, but the judge said Weller's health problems, including severe heart disease, would make him a burden on prison authorities and taxpayers, and that imprisonment would most likely kill Weller.

Defense attorneys argued that Weller was a victim of "pedal error" in which he panicked and mistook the car's accelerator for the brake. Prosecutors said he was careless to the point of criminal negligence.

The judge noted that Weller had enough control of his vehicle to avoid cars and trucks within the farmers market.

Mr. Weller chose to steer into the people, plowing into the

crowd and literally launching bodies into the air as his car sped 2 1/2 blocks," the judge said. The judge also called Weller's apologies hollow.

The district attorney's office did not make a sentencing recommendation but cited a probation officer's recommendation that Weller spend at least a short time in prison.

"I believe the courts have to be practical as well as principled," the judge said. "I don't see any purpose of sending Mr. Weller to jail or prison. It wouldn't do anybody any good."

Weller, a month short of his 90th birthday, was placed on five years' felony probation.

The judge also ordered him to pay about \$101,700 in penalties, including fines and restitution for families of two victims. Restitution for the remainder of the victims was still being resolved.

The crash sparked a national debate over whether elderly drivers should be given road and written tests when they renew their licenses.

Although Weller did not testify, a tape of his interview with police immediately after the accident was played in court. He told authorities he did everything he could think of to stop the vehicle, including attempting to throw its gearshift knob into park.

Band

continued from page 1

Saturday from Chicago-O'Hare airport, perform at a pre-game pep rally organized by the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles near the Coliseum at Brewer Park, and play on the sideline during the entire game, Dwyer said.

They will not, however, play at halftime and will not dress in their uniforms, which are being dry cleaned in preparation for Notre Dame's probable BCS bowl appearance. The band will return early Sunday morning.

The impact of the band on the football team's performance became clear, Dwyer said, after the Sept. 23 Michigan State game.

In a handwritten note that hangs outside the band office, Weis wrote, "You helped us defeat Michigan

State, [and] will help us perform our best [at USC]."

But why are only 75 members allowed to go?

Dwyer said the cap is a regulation imposed on Notre Dame by USC's fire marshal for safety concerns. The 75 members includes both members and directors, Dwyer said, noting that the directors will be bringing their instruments as well so they can "play loud."

The band has not traveled to USC in more than four years, Fleming said. Members are going this time, he said, because of Weis' direct request.

Dwyer believes the band's music can have a powerful effect on the team.

"[Football] is a game of emotion," he said. "The songs of Notre Dame give the team an extra push."

Contact John Paul Witt at jwitt1@nd.edu

THIS WEEK

INFO SESSION

Thursday, November 29
DeBartolo Hall Room 129
7:00PM

CNN SCREENING

Wednesday, November 30
DeBartolo Hall Room 129
7:00PM

TEACHFORAMERICA
www.teachforamerica.org

MARKET RECAP

Stocks
Dow Jones 12,316.54 -26.02

Up: 1,679 Same: 141 Down: 1,600 Composite Volume: 2,567,758,790

AMEX	2,008.68	+12.02
NASDAQ	2,452.72	+6.86
NYSE	8,884.17	-13.00
S&P 500	1,400.50	-0.70
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	15,783.18	+57.24
FTSE 100(London)	6,204.50	+12.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+0.20	+0.09	44.39
INTEL CP (INTC)	+0.77	+0.17	22.27
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+0.73	+0.03	5.51
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+1.67	+0.49	29.89

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.26	-0.012	4.595
13-WEEK BILL	-0.40	-0.020	4.925
30-YEAR BOND	-0.30	-0.014	4.677
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.20	-0.009	4.594

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.45	55.81
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-0.40	622.10
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.75	93.38

Exchange Rates	
YEN	118.0500
EURO	0.7799
POUND	0.5270
CANADIAN \$	1.1465

IN BRIEF

Platinum skyrockets as supply tightens

NEW YORK — Platinum futures soared Monday on developing supply tightness, options-related activity, and fund and speculative buying.

The January contract settled up \$42.20 at \$1,234.30 an ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

"Industrial demand for platinum usage in catalytic converters and electronics has been supportive for the market," said Jim Quinn, commodity floor analyst with A.G. Edwards. "There has been a steady influx of demand. And supply is rather tight, relative to demand."

Just last week, fabricator/distributor Johnson Matthey issued a report estimating that the platinum market would have a small supply deficit of 20,000 ounces in 2006.

Demand for auto catalysts was forecast to rise 15 percent this year, Johnson Matthey said, in large part due to rising market share for diesel-powered vehicles, which require platinum rather than less-expensive palladium, in addition to tightening emissions standards around the world.

EU proposes ban to sale of cat, dog fur

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union proposed a ban Monday on the sale and import of dog and cat fur in all 25 member nations, saying it has been found in some clothing, toys and other items on sale in Europe.

The European Commission — the bloc's executive body — said the dog and cat fur had either been falsely labeled as coming from another animal or was hidden within the products.

"Just the idea of young children playing with toys which have been made with dog and cat fur is something we cannot accept," said Markos Kyprianou, the body's consumer protection commissioner. "In Europe, as you know, cats and dogs are considered companion animals and nothing else."

Fifteen member states already ban dog and cat fur sales. However, a December 2005 investigation by the Australian group Humane Society International showed dog and cat fur being used in products in the Czech Republic — a member of the EU since 2004.

The proposed EU-wide ban will serve to bring clear guidelines for all member nations, Kyprianou said, adding that he expected it to pass quickly.

No domestics on safest vehicle list

New requirements keep imports atop U.S. insurance industry's rankings

Associated Press

DETROIT — Imported models took all 13 spots on the U.S. insurance industry's list of safest vehicles this year, due mainly to a new requirement that all cars and sport utilities on the list have systems to keep them stable in an emergency.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety isn't bashful about its reasons for pushing electronic stability control, saying that its studies show up to 10,000 fatal crashes per year could be prevented if every vehicle had the safety feature.

"The research is so compelling that electronic stability control could help prevent many crashes from happening in the first place," institute spokesman Russ Rader said.

Winners for the 2007 model year included the Audi A6 in the large car category; the Audi A-4, Saab 9-3 and Subaru Legacy (with optional stability control) for midsize cars; the Hyundai Entourage and Kia Sedona minivans; the Mercedes M-class and Volvo XC90 luxury sport utility vehicles; the Acura RDX, Honda Pilot and Subaru B9 Tribeca midsize SUVs; and the Honda CR-V and Subaru Forester small SUVs.

All 13 vehicles are tops in protecting people in front, side and rear crash tests based on institute tests during the year. Pickup trucks were not included because the institute has not yet tested their side crashworthiness.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has proposed requiring electronic stability control on all new vehicles by the 2012 model year, but institute President Adrian Lund said that's not soon enough.

"We think that they are too slow," Lund said. "Automakers will probably have it as standard equipment by the time the federal standards actually take full effect."

Domestic manufacturers



In this undated photo provided by Honda, the 2007 Honda CR-V is shown. Foreign brands dominated this year's safest vehicle list put out by the insurance industry.

had no models on the list of safest vehicles because they haven't moved quickly enough to add stability control to their models, Lund said in a telephone interview.

For instance, Ford Motor Co. would have had three cars — the Ford Freestyle crossover and the Mercury Montego and Ford 500 sedans — make the list if they had stability control, the institute said. The 500 and the Montego earned top safety picks last year.

Ford spokesman Jim Cain said all three vehicles will get stability control for the 2008 model year, with versions equipped with the safety feature on sale sometime next year. The company has not determined

whether the feature will be standard or optional, he said.

"We're moving in the same direction as the institute," he said.

Ford has said previously that it would put stability control on its entire lineup by the end of 2009.

General Motors Corp. said nearly two years ago that it would make the technology standard in all vehicles by 2010, including all SUVs and some full-size pickups in the 2007 model year.

Toyota has said stability control would be a standard feature across all its models by 2009.

DaimlerChrysler AG said it will have the technology on 54 percent of its vehicles this model year and will

meet the federal government's timetable for the rest.

All 2007 SUVs, pickups and minivans produced by Honda Motor Co. carry the technology, while Hyundai Motor Co. said it is standard equipment on 70 percent of its 2007 vehicles.

Several other vehicles, including nine Toyota Motor Corp. models, would have made the list if they had stability control, the institute said.

No small cars made this year's list. The Honda Civic, which won last year, was knocked off due to lack of stability control on most models. The one version that has the feature doesn't have head restraints for rear crash protection, the institute said.

Stocks end mixed amid merger news

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street was mixed in an erratic session Monday after a flurry of merger news failed to erase investors' concerns that a recent run-up has left stocks overbought.

Monday's merger agreements, including a deal by Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. to acquire Phelps Dodge Corp. for \$26 billion, totaled more than \$50 billion in activity. While the deals indicate companies are optimistic about the future, investors appear unconvinced about the health of the economy and were more cautious than usual given the spate of merger

announcements. The buyout news battled with a sense that stocks were due for a pullback after the major indexes rose more than 1 percent last week.

Matthew Smith, vice president and portfolio manager at Smith Affiliated Capital, contends investors could be wary of sending stocks much higher and in many cases will simply try to hold their gains until the end of the year.

"I just don't think right now it's warranted to take more risk on given the moves we've had. We might see trending sideways," he said.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 26.02, or 0.21 percent, at

12,316.54. Earlier in the session the Dow hit another trading high of 12,355.23.

Broader stock indicators were narrowly mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed down 0.70, or 0.05 percent, at 1,400.50, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index rose 6.86, or 0.28 percent, to 2,452.72.

Bonds rose, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note falling to 4.60 percent from 4.61 percent late Friday. The dollar was mixed against other major currencies, while gold prices fell.

Light, sweet crude fell 17 cents to \$58.80 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 8

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

THE OBSERVER

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THE
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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Mike Gilloon.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Encourage chastity, not 'free talk'

It is perhaps my greatest fear that the view proposed in Joey Falco's column ("Disloyal fathers," Nov. 20) is the popular one. Although articulate, considerate and genuinely concerned for the welfare of the human race (qualities which seem rare nowadays), Joey Falco misses the point. With all due respect to him, I write that bowing down to the insatiable, animalistic desires of an over-sexed youth will only perpetuate the problems of modern society, specifically those mentioned by Falco in his article.

Throwing condoms at Africa will, perhaps, slow the spread of AIDS. (This, even, is heavily debated.) Talking about sex freely on campus as if it were common and accepted will, perhaps, allow for better treatment of both victims and perpetrators of sexual assault. In both cases, the solution obviously looks toward the end — less AIDS, more dialogue — as the basis for what is good. However, in giving in too much to what seems to be an uncontrollable trend in regards to sexuality in the world today, Falco implies that attempting to teach men and women virtue, specifically chastity, would be a futile effort.

I answer that we must never give up. Who cares about chastity? Isn't it just one of those pretty little things that the Church teaches? I answer with a resounding, "No!" As it is the first image that came to

mind, I use an analogy of a dog. This dog has a problem. He barks. He yelps. He growls, and he even attacks sweet Aunt Fac who, in his mind, seems especially threatening. (Sparkly, red, horn-rimmed glasses are never a good idea.) There are two options here. Either one can muzzle the dog and force him to keep his mouth shut by physically tying his jaws together, or one can teach him to bark less, be more discerning of strangers and obey when he is asked to behave. Granted, the first option is certainly the easier one and probably the least taxing on both the dog and the owner. The second option, however, is the more desirable one, albeit the more difficult one. It's not hard to see the analogy. Condoms and "talking freely about sex" are the muzzle, clamping shut our sexuality and that for which it is intended. Chastity is what the dog possesses after achieving obedience and humility. Both solutions produce the same effect, but the dog that has been taught can now use his gifts for good, like warding off the burglar who comes in the middle of the night.

We are not animals. We do not have to be trained to obey. We can discern right from wrong provided we have the tools to do so. The practice of denying condoms to Africa and preventing "free talk" on sex at the University does not deny a reality but

affirms another: we are human, choose to act a certain way, yet are called to act in accordance with the teachings of Scripture and Christ Himself. The university has never closed its doors to the victims of sexual assault, and if it has, I will stand up with the throng to open them again. However, "free talk" will only make for an environment that is especially hard to choose well. The problem of sex on campus seems overbearing enough already; we do not need men and women walking around unashamedly of last night's exploits.

I hope I am wrong in my analysis of Falco's viewpoint. I expect with all humility that Falco will berate me and sharpen his essay against my rough foil. Even if Falco himself should write an article examining ways in which chastity could be taught, I fear that there are still others who do not understand what I have intended to say or what I have in mind for the university. For these men and women, I respond simply: don't allow yourself to be muzzled, but come to know the infinite good of your sexuality.

Daniel Amiri
sophomore
Alumni Hall
Nov. 20

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The important work of moving the world forward does not wait to be done by perfect men."

George Eliot
novelist

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We did not change as we grew older;
we just became more clearly ourselves."

Lynn Hall
author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Legal Aid Clinic exists to help the poor

It was with great interest that I read The Observer's story ("Students discuss legalities," Nov. 16) on a "preventative lawyering" seminar conducted by the Notre Dame legal aid clinic for Notre Dame undergraduates living off-campus. And while I'm certain the experience provided an excellent research opportunity for the law students involved, I find the enterprise incredibly disappointing.

I was a student intern at the Notre Dame Immigration Clinic during my third year of law school — a law school institution that ground to a halt this year due in some part to administrative exigencies and in large part to a palpable lack of support from the law school administration. The immigration clinic served over 200 members of the South Bend immigrant community, most of them refugees who fled unimaginable persecution to come here to the United States, usually with little more than the clothes they were wearing and whatever cash they could stuff into their pockets. The students and faculty who served them diligently and tirelessly lit-

erally saved their lives.

And now, as an attorney with the Department of Justice in the Executive Office for Immigration Review, I have already had ample opportunity to see what happens to immigrants and other disadvantaged people who can't afford quality representation and are either forced to represent themselves or fleeced by unqualified and dishonest attorneys who take advantage of their disadvantage. I understand even more acutely the desperate need for low-cost and free legal services for the most vulnerable members of our society. And so I am shocked and a little embarrassed that the Notre Dame Legal Aid Clinic, an institution whose stated purpose is to provide "legal services to local residents who cannot afford private practice attorneys," is using its resources (which are apparently so limited that it cannot continue to do immigration work) to help Notre Dame undergrads get out of tickets for underage consumption and disturbing the peace.

Don't get me wrong — I know that not every single Notre Dame student is

wealthy. As an Assistant Rector, I became keenly aware of the sometimes extraordinary economic disparities among Notre Dame students. But I know too that over 60 percent of Notre Dame students come from families with a household income exceeding 100,000 dollars a year — hardly the kind of "local residents" the Clinic professes to exist to serve. When I was an AR, I heard some students complain ad nauseum about the paternalism of dorm rules and about how they longed for the seemingly unfettered liberty of off-campus life, where they could finally be "treated like grown-ups."

Unfortunately, when it comes time to take adult responsibility for their own actions, these same students now ask the University to provide them with free legal services. Perhaps I'm naive to think that parents who agree to pay off-campus rent are willing to retain attorneys for their student tenants when they throw parties that break the law; but I was, of course, The Man myself.

Despite my apparently antiquated

notions of the responsibilities of adulthood, I know that the Notre Dame Legal Aid Clinic does not exist for the defense of Notre Dame undergrads fighting for their right to party. It exists to provide Notre Dame law students with practical legal training while serving the needs of the poor. The Clinic plays an integral role in the University's relationship with the South Bend community, and it should continue to devote its attention and resources to serving its mission, not facilitating off-campus ragers thrown by students who by and large have access to paid representation. And if the Clinic has such a glut of resources that it can afford these "extracurricular" activities, it is shameful that the law school administration hasn't taken more concrete steps to reopen the Immigration Clinic. But maybe my expectations are just too high.

Katherine Leahy, J.D.
Newark, NJ
Nov. 16

Stem-cell research: a moral endeavor?

I am strongly pro-life. I am against abortion, in most cases, and I believe that our laws should reflect what is morally right. But I'm having a problem with the issue of stem cell research. Conventional wisdom says that it's inconsistent to be both pro-life and pro-stem cell research. I used to agree with that wholeheartedly, but it doesn't seem so clear-cut anymore.

Two months ago, I finished chemotherapy for testicular cancer. Thankfully, I can call myself a survivor; however, many people aren't as lucky. Each day I spent in the oncology ward of the hospital, receiving that venomous chemo, I met people who had it much worse than I. The brutal reality: they were going to die. Old, young, black, white, male, female — it didn't matter. I gazed into their vacant, pale and numb faces, as they coped with insurmountable pain and the fear of death. I saw their families huddled around their bedside, holding trembling hands, holding back the tears, trying to "be strong" for their sick loved one.

These types of diseases destroy lives. And it made me sick, deep in my soul. It made me angry, too. "We have got to fix this," I said to myself. The greatest country in the world — we have got to work on this! Many scientists and researchers believe that embryonic stem cells present the possibility of curing several debilitating diseases, such as Parkinson's, diabetes, Alzheimer's and cancer. Only time will tell if they are right. But should we give scientists the opportunity to, at the very least, see what they can do? I'm not talking about cloning or other wild, science-fiction possibilities. I'm talking about sound, reasonable stem-cell research legislation. So here's my dilemma: Is it possible to be a pro-life Catholic and pro-embryonic stem cell research?

Several leading conservatives claim to be both pro-life and pro-stem cell research. Supporters estimate that 100 million people could be aided by stem cell developments. "Stem-cell research facilitates life," Senator Orrin Hatch says. "Abortion destroys lives; this is about saving lives." Also, supporters claim that there is a moral difference between a fertilized egg in a petri dish or test tube and a fertilized egg in a uterus. If the embryos are about to be discarded at a fertility clinic anyway, why should we abandon them when we could be curing deadly diseases? But on the other hand, is there really a moral difference between a fertilized egg in the uterus and one in a test tube? Richard Doerflinger, an official with the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said, "Destroying an embryo in the lab is morally the same as abortion in Catholic teaching." Is it? I honestly don't know for sure.

My ultimate conclusion is inconclusive. But I do think there is a compelling reason to, at the very least, entertain the possibility that stem-cell research is a moral and worthwhile endeavor. At a place like Notre Dame, a leader in Catholic intellectual thought, we should begin paying more attention to the possibility.

Lt. Mike Koprowski, USAF
alumnus
Class of 2006
Nov. 17

Combine religion and science in education

In 1957, the Russians launched Sputnik into space, sparking a fierce space race that pushed the United States towards further scientific development and advancement. Unfortunately, this effort has lost momentum throughout the past five decades. This is evident in falling math and science scores, resulting in our country being ranked below average on various international tests.

Who ranks first you ask? Japan and Singapore, in both math and science and throughout all grade levels. There are various reasons that can explain the decline in math/science skills in America, including an overall lack of ambition in the States to adhere to the strict discipline forced on East Asian students. However, instead of trying to concern ourselves with the discipline level in our schools, I think we should focus on the status that religion has in our society.

Like in many cultures, religion in America has a large effect on many aspects of life. Encouraged by the family, it instills many of the values and morals that people will exercise with all their lives. However, it seems that religious fervor in America is decreasing along with our math/science skills, something that is easily forgotten in such a spiritual atmosphere as Notre Dame. This is evident in the slipping church attendance rates, with less than a fifth of the population attending weekly. Many have noted

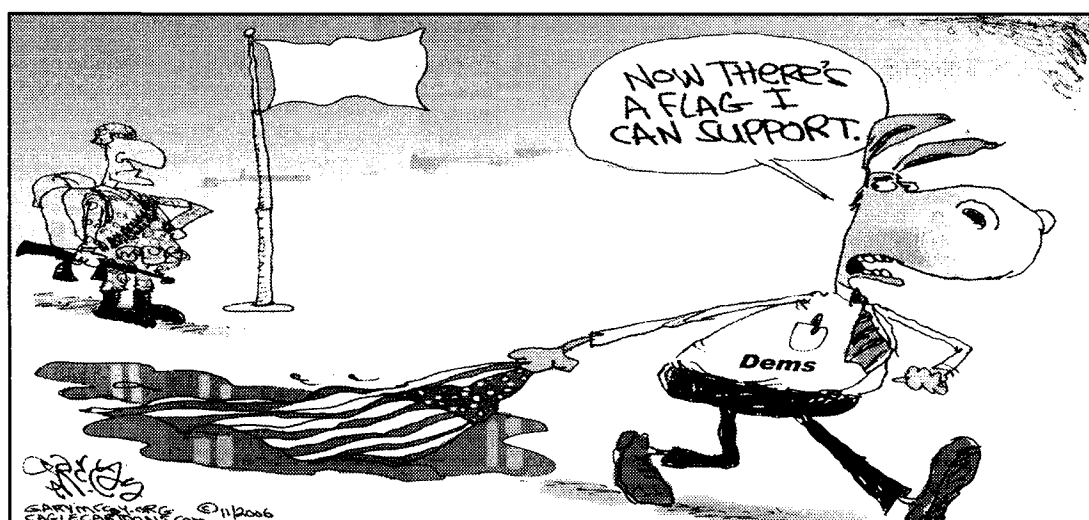
that those who do claim to go to church just do so on religious holidays. This is unacceptable, especially when one considers what a strong faith can contribute to one's education.

We can no longer consider religion and science as being mutually exclusive; rather, we must recognize that they support each other, as Pope John Paul II said, "like two wings on which the human spirit rises to contemplation of the truth." The intellect is the most godlike aspect of humanity and one that honors God through the vigorous exercise of the mind. One must study the book of scripture, but also the book of nature, as God's plan is evident in both of these resources. Faith reveals the questions in which we look to reason for the answers. Therefore, in strengthening one's faith, one will also be more motivated to inquire into the wonderful world that God has made.

For this reason, I am proud to be a student here at Notre Dame, "a place," as University President Father John Jenkins would say, "of higher learning that plays host to world-changing teaching and research, but where technical knowledge does not outrun moral wisdom."

Kristen Larsen
freshman
Welsh Family Hall
Nov. 19

EDITORIAL CARTOON



CD REVIEW

My Chemical Romance fails to lead 'Parade'

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

When did it become fashionable for Goth to blend with a Napoleonic, costumed outfit pulled out of the attic for Sgt. Pepper? This seems to be the case with My Chemical Romance's latest release, "Welcome to the Black Parade." With an overly skeletal makeup style and a musical taste that simply doesn't match, My Chemical Romance has unsuccessfully gone the emo-rock route of break-ups, gender bending and pretentiousness. While the music is catchy at points, on the whole it's too pop-like to take this band at face value.

Opening with two tracks that are basically one (and ironically the best of the album), My Chemical Romance yearns to look like Green Day and sound like Alkaline Trio with a similar emo-goth style. However, the band lacks both the staying power of Green Day and the testicular forti-

tude to write the gut-wrenching lyrics that have come to define Alkaline Trio, the self-proclaimed heirs to "evil emo."

Particularly, this is shown in the lyrics of the first track, when lead singer Gerard Way says, "Now come one and all to this tragic affair/ Wipe off that makeup/ What's in is despair." The album isn't tragic — the high production values are too glossy, and the backup vocals could have been drawn from any corporate library of sounds.

What can be made, then, of the band's makeup? The androgynous nature of pop-punk has been part of a growing trend. For example, AFI's frontman, Davey Havok, started wearing makeup years ago. However, Havok's music had the lyrical poeticism to warrant his alternative-looking stage costumes. With "The Black Parade," bubblegum pop-punk meets Havok's style, and is not the better for it.

Whereas AFI can effectively sing about a girl, and make it sound good, My Chemical Romance is spouting the same old lyrics of their first album while trying to imitate an image of seriousness and doom. One has to ask if they are actually asking any particular girl to take off her makeup, or if they are directed towards any musician among the spate of emo-punk bands with eyeliner and black uniforms. Track four, "The

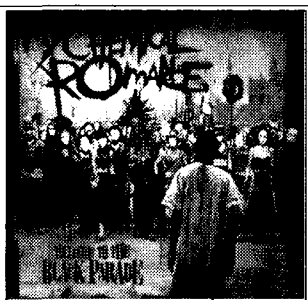


Photo courtesy of musicofmychemicalromance.com

Pop-punk band My Chemical Romance (from left, Mikey Way, Frank Iero, Gerard Way, Bob Bryar and Ray Toro) recently released an underwhelming new album.

My Chemical Romance

Welcome to the
Black Parade



Recommended tracks: 'I Don't Love You,' 'Mama'

DVD REVIEW

'Da Vinci Code' stirs little controversy or interest

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

Dan Brown's novel "The Da Vinci Code" stirred controversy, but Ron Howard's film version stirs little but bad reviews. "The Da Vinci Code" is now available on DVD from Sony Pictures, bringing the divisive story of the Holy Grail into your home so you can ride around with Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu in Smart Cars while evading the evil forces of Opus Dei and the French FBI.

Say what you will about the story — inevitably, it's controversial. Everyone had something to say about Brown's take on the Holy Grail legend: the pope didn't like it, and the general public ate it up. Also, say what you will about the literary merit of the text itself: English professors didn't like it, and the general public ate it up.

But the film is something else. Firstly, the superstar and near-winner of three Oscars in a row, Tom Hanks, plays Brown's normally self-assured protagonist, cryptologist Robert Langdon.

However, this performance certainly

won't be revered in the same way as "Philadelphia" or "Cast Away." Once the distracting hairstyle is forgotten (readers most likely won't remember Brown saying that Langdon had a glorified mullet), all that's left of Hanks' performance is the surprised look that doesn't leave his face for the entire film.

Spending the movie painstakingly explaining the mysteries, symbols and conspiracies to both the audience and Sophie Neveu (Audrey Tautou), his counterpart, can get exhausting. But Hanks' Langdon seems to have spent too much time in his office at Harvard and not enough time in the real world. He simply can't handle what happens.

Langdon spends most of the time with Neveu searching for clues relating to her grandfather's murder. Accused of the murder by French cop Fache (brilliantly played by the toughest Frenchman since Robespierre, Jean Reno) and chased by a sinister albino monk named Silas (Paul Bettany), Langdon and Neveu travel from Paris to Britain in search of the truth, uncovering the biggest secret in the history of humanity.

On the whole, the film is decent. Howard is no hack, and he knows how to make a solid film.

However, his pacing is slightly off, and aside from a few exceptions, the acting is wooden and uninspired. The story is interesting but doesn't translate very well into film. The backstory needed to



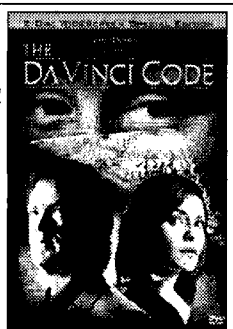
Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks), left, stands in front of Da Vinci's Mona Lisa with Sophie Neveu (Audrey Tautou) in the Louvre in Ron Howard's "The Da Vinci Code."

The Da Vinci Code

Widescreen Two-Disc Special Edition

Sony Pictures



understand the "Da Vinci Code" and its mythology takes up most of the movie. Conversely, the flashbacks to the time of Jesus and the Middle Ages are interesting, however historically speculative or inaccurate.

The DVD comes with an extra disc that contains a slew of extras, a few of which are worth noting. Most of them are logs of the filming process that take the viewer to the different locations that were used during filming. Parts of the film were shot on location in Paris and London, so these provide interesting insights on how the film was made.

Also, Howard provides the commentary to most of these extras. The sound is available in English and Spanish Dolby

5.1. While other films have exploited this system to its fullest potential, "Da Vinci Code" provides a good sound mix without being groundbreaking.

Overall, this is a decent film with some exciting sequences and an interesting look at what the conspiracy theorists are saying out there. Whether you love the story or hate it, this film is a welcome diversion. "Da Vinci Code" won't shake your intellect, but it's exciting, fast-paced and doesn't ask too much of you.

Watch it with a bowl of popcorn, and leave your Bible on the shelf.

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EVENT REVIEW

Asian Allure highlights diverse experiences

Student production features performances from multiple Asian countries

HY PHAM/The Observer

The Korean Fan dance is a traditional dance in which performers use fans to make visually stunning formations, one of several excellent performances in Asian Allure.

By ANALISE LIPARI
Assistant Scene Editor

Washington Hall played host to a vast array of Asian cultures last Thursday and Friday night, with multiple Asian-American cultural clubs and campus groups performing in the 10th annual Asian Allure. Featuring performances with origins in Vietnam, Korea, Japan and more, the show was a celebration of the joyous diversity of experience and art.

Asian Allure has come to be a thematic collection of acts by multiple Asian cultural organizations from across the Notre Dame campus, whose diverse subjects range from traditional Korean fan dancing to modern Hip Hop routines.

A chance for both well-known and lower-profile campus groups to literally show their stuff, Asian Allure is a mix of humorous characters, fashion shows and powerful performances that gives the average student further essential exposure to different cultural experiences within the Notre Dame community.

The show began with a painstaking performance of a traditional Chinese Lion Dance, with two performers underneath an ornate lion costume. The head of the lion was remarkably constructed, with the performers being able to use controls to let the lion's expressive eyes blink at the crowd. Ending with some pretty remarkable acrobatics on the part of the puppeteers, the Lion Dance was a strong way to open a consistently entertaining evening of performances and fashion.

The overall theme of this year's Asian Allure was that of a journey, as the show featured two friends (Thao Nguyen and

Zach Eberbach) traveling throughout Asia (stopping in several American cities, like New York and Chicago, along the way) during their spring break.

The two, acting as both hosts and characters, humorously helped the show progress from segment to segment in their roles as spectators.

The concept of the journey itself was a way for those participating in Asian Allure to vocalize and make known their feelings about the Asian-American community within Notre Dame.

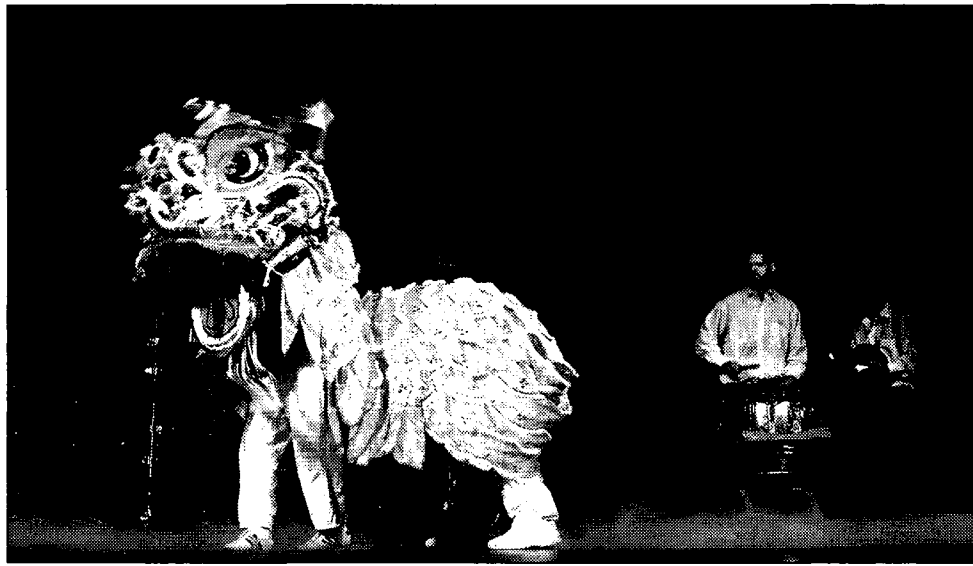
"The show was centered around the motif of a journey, which I think is a very powerful theme," sophomore and Korean Fan dance choreographer Laura Wilczek said. "The Asian-American students at Notre Dame have embarked on a true journey; a lot of students come from abroad, some from all over the nation, and others are Asian-American adoptees."

Wilczek and others see this idea as a reflection of the Asian-American experience at Notre Dame. Specifically this year's theme, "Illumination," provided those participating in Asian Allure with the chance to both reflect on their paths and enlighten others about their unique journey.

"Everyone has a story. Asian Allure was a way [for] the Asian-American community on campus [to] share a little bit about their culture and the unique gifts they brought to campus -- to, in a way, 'strengthen the family,'" Wilczek said.

While each segment was interesting and well-performed, several were definitely standout moments of the evening.

The first of several fashion segments, featuring traditional clothing from the countries represented during Asian



HY PHAM/The Observer

Hosts Thao Nguyen, far right, and Zach Eberbach watch from the wings during the Lion dance. The Lion dance began the night's blend of modern and traditional styles.

Allure, was fairly early in the evening. It was fascinating to see the different outfits on stage, noting the differences between a Vietnamese woman's clothing and that of a traditional Korean woman. Even a Japanese samurai was noted in this particular fashion display, and overall the variety of outfits contributed again to the overall sense of diversity and variety.

The Hip Hop dances from the show's first half, which featured break dancing and other types of dance, provided the show with a flashy, exciting departure from some of the quieter, more traditional acts within the evening's repertoire of acts. The use of recognizable music helped connect these performances to an eager audience, and the overwhelming impression of enjoyment emanating from each performer made the acts that much more fun to watch.

The Korean Fan dance and the Chinese Ribbon dance were two among several examples of more traditional performance art that were featured during the show. The former, during which performers create visually engaging formations with Korean fans, was fascinating in its use of movement to make a symbolic "mountain" or "flower."

The Ribbon dance also used props, here traditional Chinese ribbons (streamer-like strands of cloths attached to small rods) to give an impression of ethereal, colorful lines floating across the stage.

The Korean costumes, kimono-like outfits known as hanboks, were colorful reminders of the heritage being celebrated. The simplicity of the Ribbon dance performers' costumes — black shirts and pants with a dark red design on the front of each shirt — allowed the ribbons to lit-

erally take center stage, giving the audience a chance to focus on this visually captivating art.

Other excellent performances among the exemplary group of acts were the acoustic version of John Lennon's "Imagine," juxtaposed against a starkly powerful slide show of the Asian-American experience, the traditional Hawaiian dance and the final act, a traditional Indian dance reminiscent of the increasingly well-known Bollywood tradition in cinema.

The future of Asian Allure is, according to its participants, a bright one that will continue to be a significant part of the Notre Dame community.

"I can see Asian Allure continuing for a long time," Wilczek said. "We have a lot of support from the greater Notre Dame community, which is fantastic."

The welcoming nature of the show also gives students a chance to learn about someone other than himself or herself an inevitably central component to being a citizen of today's world.

"I think Asian Allure is a great way for people to learn more about different cultures," Wilczek said.

"Everyone is invited to participate in Asian Allure, even if they are not Asian, [which] makes Asian Allure all the more special. It is a chance for people to put their differences aside and work together as a group, with the goal [of] educating the greater student body," she said.

Consistently well-performed and fascinating, this year's Asian Allure will be remembered for continuing a tradition of welcoming and sharing at Notre Dame.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu



HY PHAM/The Observer

The Hip Hop dancers were a more modern addition to Asian Allure. The diverse cast reflected the show's aim to increase cultural relations and understanding.



HY PHAM/The Observer

The show's final act featured a traditional Indian dance, the second of two Indian-themed performances that night. The variety of acts added to the show's appeal.

NHL

Penguins remain unbeaten by in-state rivals

Vanek, Gaustad both score twice as Buffalo tallies seven goals in the second period to rout the Lightning Monday

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ryan Whitney had a goal and two assists, and Sidney Crosby and Dominic Moore each added a goal and an assist as the Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Philadelphia Flyers 5-3 on Monday night.

John LeClair and Sergei Gonchar also scored for the Penguins, who snapped their four-game, road-losing streak and handed the Flyers their fifth straight home loss.

Simon Gagne, Geoff Sanderson, and Frederick Meyer scored for the Flyers, who trailed 3-0 after the first period.

The Penguins are 4-0 against the Flyers this season, outscoring them 20-7.

Whitney threaded a cross-ice pass to LeClair, who flicked the puck past goalie Antero Niittymaki 35 seconds in for the Penguins' first goal on a power play.

Moore made it 2-0 at 4:31 after taking a spectacular centering pass from Crosby, who streaked down the ice, stopped at the circle, spun around and put the puck on Moore's stick.

Whitney scored with nine seconds left in the period, beating Niittymaki high following a scramble.

Buffalo 7, Tampa Bay 2

Thomas Vanek and Paul Gaustad each scored twice in Buffalo's seven-goal second period, and Ales Kotalik had three assists to lead the Sabres to a win over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Monday night.

Jiri Novotny, Jaroslav Spacek and Chris Drury also scored for

the Sabres, who won for the sixth time in eight games.

Martin St. Louis had two goals for Tampa Bay, which lost its second straight.

It was the fifth time the Sabres scored six or more goals this season, and the second time in five games that they had seven.

Ryan Miller made 24 saves to win for the first time since Nov. 2. He missed four games in the middle of the month with an abdominal strain.

St. Louis gave the Lightning a 1-0 first-period lead before the Sabres broke loose for seven goals on 13 shots in the middle frame against Lightning goalie Marc Denis, making his second start in seven games.

Gaustad, who also added an assist, opened the scoring on the power play for Buffalo, fighting off Tampa Bay defenseman Luke Richardson along the side of the net to knock the puck in after it bounced off the end boards off a shot from Maxim Afinogenov.

Novotny scored 63 seconds later, and Vanek made it 3-1 at 7:48 of the second.

Nashville 3, Columbus 1

Paul Kariya and Martin Erat each had a goal and an assist as the Nashville Predators beat the Columbus Blue Jackets Monday night.

Tomas Vokoun lost his shutout bid with 15 seconds left but finished with 23 saves in his 10th win of the season for the Predators, who defeated Columbus for the third time in six days. Scott Nichol also scored for the Nashville, which won 13 of 16.

Jason Chimera scored for the

Blue Jackets, who have dropped a season-high six straight. Columbus entered with the fewest points (11) and goals scored (39) in the NHL and was nearly shut out for the third time in five contests.

Columbus' Adam Foote, who entered a team-worst minus-11, couldn't keep a bouncing puck in the Nashville zone. Erat banked a lead pass off the boards to Kariya, who scooped it up, cut in alone down the left wing and beat goaltender Fredrik Norrena with a backhand move to make it 1-0 at 9:49 of the first period.

Nashville made it 2-0 early in the second period on a power-play goal by Nichol. Steve Sullivan skated the length of the ice, fending off several Blue Jackets players. He put on the brakes and sent a cross-ice pass to David Legwand at the left circle. Legwand one-timed the puck to Nichol for a tap-in.

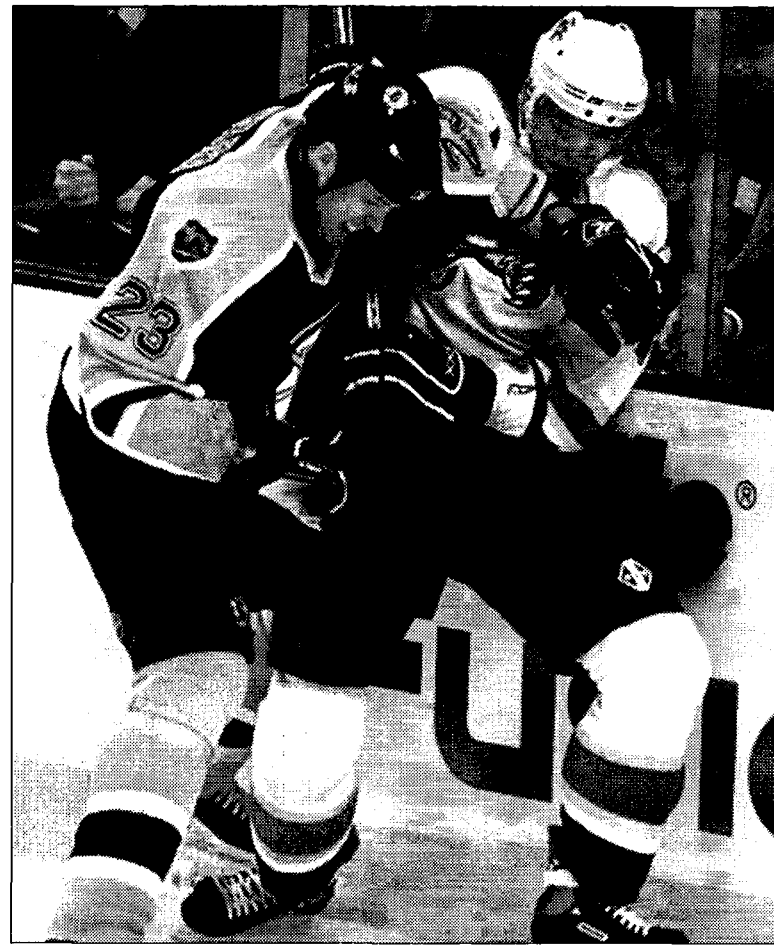
Florida 3, Boston 2

Alex Auld made 29 saves, Martin Gelinis scored a power-play goal and the Florida Panthers snapped Boston's season-high, four-game winning streak with a victory over the Bruins on Monday night.

Joe Nieuwendyk netted a third-period, power-play goal and Nathan Horton scored in the second period for the Panthers, who won for the second time in seven games. It was Florida's second road win of the season (2-6-3).

Glen Murray scored his team-leading 10th and 11th goals for Boston, which had its longest winning streak since March 2004 stopped.

Tim Thomas, making his fifth



Boston defenseman Paul Mara pins the Panthers' Juraj Kolnik against the boards in a 3-2 Bruins loss Monday night.

straight start for the Bruins, stopped 25 shots.

The Bruins cut the deficit to 3-2 on Murray's second goal with 5:04 to play, but Boston couldn't get the tying goal despite pulling Thomas for an extra skater for the final 1:06. The Bruins didn't even record a shot with Thomas out.

Unlike the teams' other meeting this season, an 8-3 win by the Panthers on opening night, this game had strong goaltending and tougher defense.

Nieuwendyk made it 3-1 with just over 10 minutes left, but Murray completed a 2-on-1 break with a wrist shot past Auld's glove.

Stephen Weiss set up Gelinis' goal to break a scoreless tie 15:14 into the opening period. Weiss fired a pass to Gelinis, who redirected a backhand shot past Thomas from the edge of the crease.

Auld made the lead stand up with some steady play until Horton's goal made it 2-0 at 14:47 of the second. Horton one-timed a rising shot over Thomas off a centering pass from Olli Jokinen.

Toronto 4, New York Islanders 2

Darcy Tucker scored his 13th goal and the Toronto Maple Leafs held on for a victory over the New York Islanders on Monday night.

John Pohl, Kyle Wellwood and Alexei Ponikarovsky also scored for the Maple Leafs, who ended a two-game losing skid.

Toronto outshot New York 33-21, including 13-5 in the first.

The Maple Leafs have had offensive trouble lately without captain Mats Sundin (torn elbow ligament), but Tucker continued to impress on the power play, scoring his NHL-leading 10th goal with the man advantage. He is on pace to surpass the career-high 28 goals he scored last season.

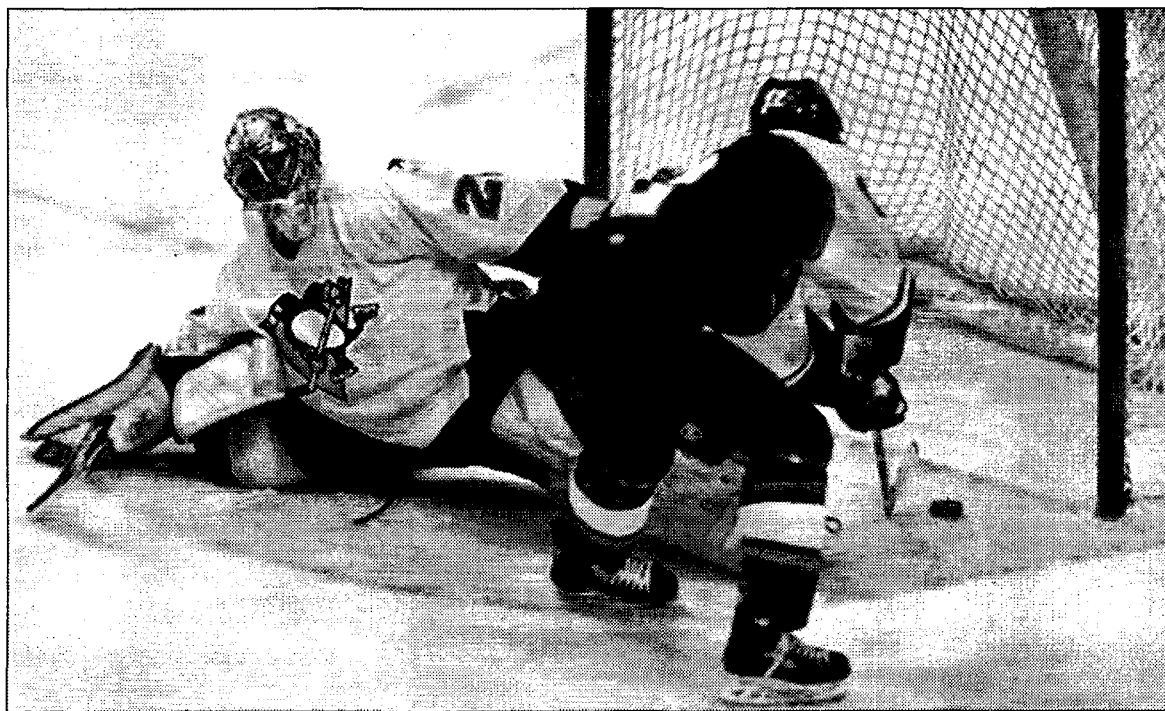
Toronto's Andrew Raycroft made 19 saves after missing three games with a strained groin.

Chris Simon and Jason Blake scored for the Islanders, who finished 3-1-1 on their road trip. New York played its fourth game in six days.

Pohl scored the first of Toronto's three first-period goals at 2:53 with a shot from the side of the net.

Maple Leafs defenseman Ian White failed to clear the puck before Simon put a screened one-timer past Raycroft at 5:03 of the first.

Just 51 seconds later, Wellwood restored Toronto's lead by scoring from the side the net after goalie Rick DiPietro skated too far in front of his net.



Pittsburgh goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury watches as Flyers left wing Simon Gagne misses a breakaway opportunity. Gagne later scored, but Philadelphia lost Monday's game 5-3.

CLASSIFIEDS

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AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Hockey

Associated Press Top 25

team	record	points	previous
1 Minnesota	10-1-2	799	2
2 Maine	8-2-1	717	1
3 Miami (Ohio)	10-4-0	672	6
4 NOTRE DAME	9-2-1	653	5
5 Boston College	7-3-1	624	7
6 Michigan State	6-3-1	615	4
7 Michigan	9-3-0	594	8
8 New Hampshire	7-2-1	535	10
9 North Dakota	6-5-1	414	3
10 Denver	7-4-1	410	11
11 Boston University	3-2-4	405	9
12 Cornell	6-2-0	315	12
13 St. Cloud State	4-3-3	250	17
14 Massachusetts	6-1-1	240	20
15 Dartmouth	5-3-0	189	13
16 Alaska	5-2-3	145	19
17 Yale	6-1-0	138	NR
18 Northern Michigan	7-6-2	124	15
19 Colorado College	7-4-1	122	NR
20 Quinnipiac	7-3-2	116	NR
21 Wisconsin	4-8-2	78	14
22 Alaska-Anchorage	6-4-2	52	24
23 St. Lawrence	6-3-0	44	NR
24 Rensselaer	4-2-3	39	18
25 Lake Superior	8-4-0	30	NR

NCAA Hockey

CCHA Standings

team	points	league record	overall record
1 Miami (Ohio)	14	7-3-0	10-4-0
2 Michigan	12	6-2-0	9-3-0
3 Ohio State	10	4-4-2	4-6-2
4 NOTRE DAME	9	4-1-1	9-2-1
5 Michigan St.	9	4-3-1	6-3-1
6 N. Michigan	9	4-3-1	7-6-2
7 W. Michigan	9	4-5-1	5-5-1
8 Alaska	8	3-1-2	5-2-3
9 Lake Superior	6	3-3-0	8-4-0
10 Neb.-Omaha	5	2-5-1	3-6-3
11 Ferris State	3	1-6-1	3-8-1
12 Bowling Green	2	1-7-0	3-8-1

NCAA Football

Harris Poll

team	record	points	previous
1 Ohio State	12-0	2850	1
2 USC	9-1	2621	3
3 Michigan	11-1	2600	2
4 Florida	10-1	2531	4
5 NOTRE DAME	10-1	2347	5
6 Arkansas	10-1	2345	6
7 West Virginia	9-1	2051	8
8 LSU	9-2	1889	9
9 Wisconsin	11-1	1888	11
10 Louisville	9-1	1857	10
11 Texas	9-2	1731	12
12 Boise State	11-0	1609	13
13 Auburn	10-2	1449	15
14 Oklahoma	9-2	1404	16
15 Rutgers	9-1	1270	7
16 Georgia Tech	9-2	1157	18
17 Virginia Tech	9-2	1049	19
18 Boston College	9-2	927	20
19 Tennessee	8-3	675	22
20 Wake Forest	9-2	605	14

around the dial

NBA

Chicago at Denver
9 p.m., Comcast

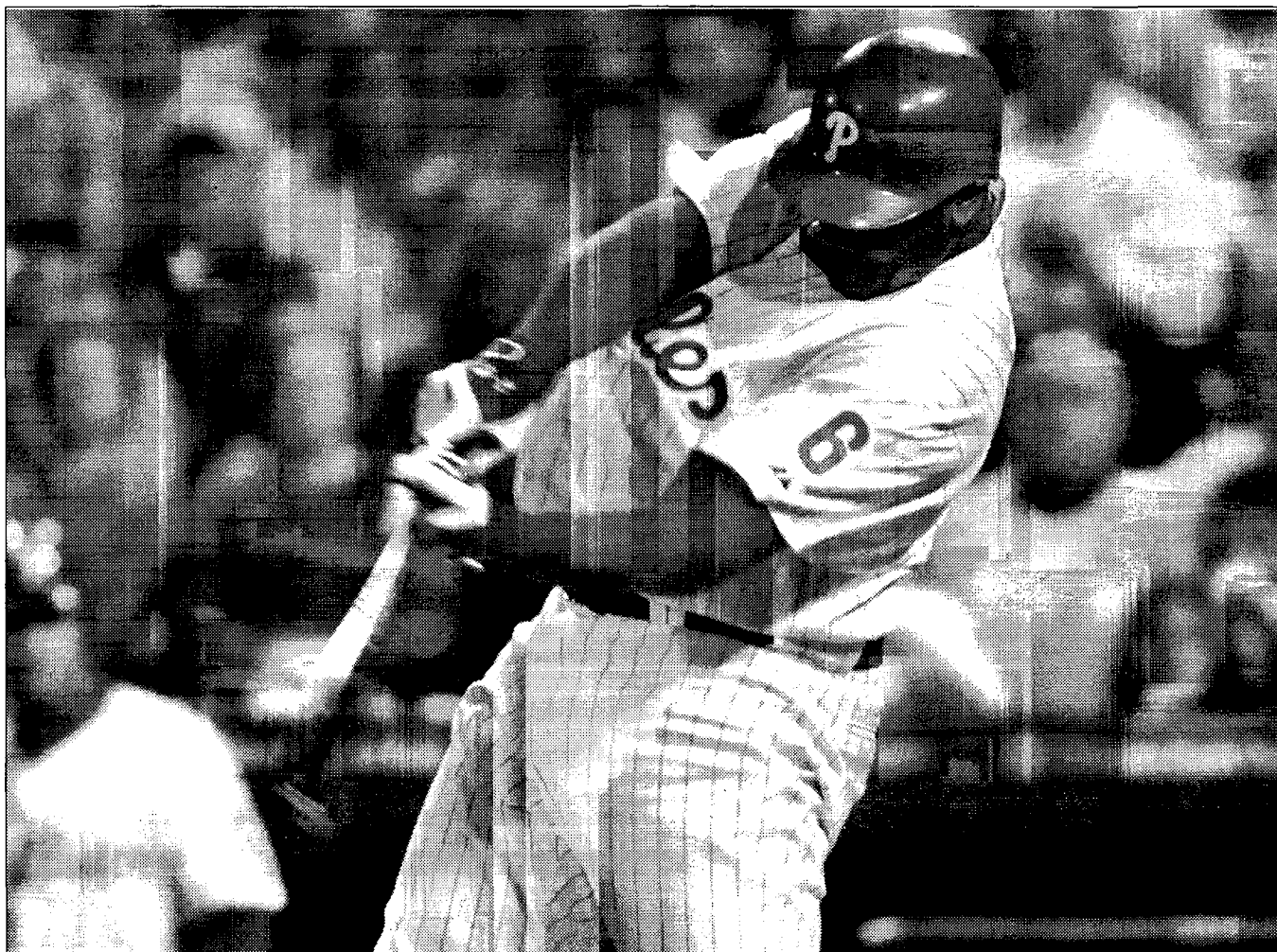
NBA

Bowling Green at Toledo
7 p.m., ESPN2

NHL

Carolina at New York Rangers
7 p.m., Versus

MLB



Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard hits a three-run homer off Marlins pitcher Ricky Nolasco in a game Sept. 22. Howard was awarded NL MVP honors Monday after a season in which he led the majors in home runs and RBI.

Phillies slugger Howard wins MVP

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ryan Howard had a season that defied convention, one that made him only the second player voted Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in consecutive years.

"I heard sophomore jinx this, sophomore jinx that," he said after beating out 2005 NL MVP Albert Pujols for the award Monday. "I just prepared myself in spring training to go out and perform, stick with my game plan and have fun."

After leading the major leagues in home runs and RBI, Howard received 20 first-place votes and 12 seconds for 388 points in

balloting by a panel of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Pujols got 12 firsts, 19 seconds and one third for 347 points.

Cal Ripken Jr. (1982 and 1983) is the only other player to follow a Rookie of the Year award with an MVP the following year. Two players won both in the same year: Fred Lynn (1975) and Ichiro Suzuki (2001).

"It's definitely a relief. It's a good birthday present," said Howard, who turned 27 Sunday.

Howard had 58 homers — the most in the majors since Barry Bonds hit a record 73 in 2001 — and

149 RBI while batting .313. He set Phillies records for home runs and RBI, producing the highest totals in those categories in big league history for a second-year player. Twenty-three of Howard's homers put the Phillies ahead and five tied games. The Phillies went 32-18 when he homered.

Howard didn't make it to the major leagues for good until July 1, 2005, when Jim Thome went on the disabled list. He batted .288 for the Phillies in 2005 with 22 homers and 63 RBI in 321 at-bats.

"It's been a fun ride," Howard said. "You can't really just sit there and kind of dwell on what's

gone on in the past and all that kind of stuff and what's going to happen as far as being traded or what my future was with the Phillies. The only thing I could have done was just go out and play and let everything else just kind of sort itself out."

Howard won the All-Star Home Run Derby and in June connected off the Yankees' Mike Mussina for the first homer to reach the third deck in the three-year history of Citizens Bank Park, a drive estimated at 461 feet.

"I didn't think it was humanly possible to do something like that," Howard said.

IN BRIEF

Former Eagle DB Waters commits suicide

TAMPA, Fla. — Andre Waters, a defensive back who spent most of his 12 seasons in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles, was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound early Monday. He was 44.

His body was found at about 1:30 a.m. at his Tampa home, the medical examiner's office said. He had shot himself in the head. Toxicology reports were ordered and results will be available in four to six weeks, the office said.

Waters' body was found by his girlfriend, Hillsborough County sheriff's spokeswoman Debbie Carter said. The woman's name was not available, and the sheriff's office had no further details, Carter added.

"What a devastating piece of news," Eagles radio voice Merrill Reese said in a statement on the team's Web site. "Andre was a guy who could light up a room with his personality."

Olympic swimming champ Thorpe retires

SYDNEY, Australia — Five-time Olympic champion Ian Thorpe retired from competitive swimming Tuesday at the age of 24, saying breaking records "wasn't as inspiring as it should have been."

Thorpe, who held a news conference at a Sydney hotel, said he decided at "2:53 on Sunday afternoon" not to swim at next year's world championships in Melbourne and to end his pro swimming career.

"It's been a tough decision to make," he said. "I had to pick a time, that was the time. None of my goals included breaking any more world records. I knew how to do it, but it wasn't as inspiring as it should have been."

Speculation swirled for months about whether Thorpe planned to pull out of the world championships or quit the sport entirely.

Yankees agree to two-year deal for Mussina

NEW YORK — Mike Mussina and the New York Yankees reached a preliminary agreement Monday on a \$23 million, two-year contract.

Mussina is scheduled to take a physical Tuesday that would allow the deal to be finalized. He declined comment on the agreement, saying he would refrain from any remarks until a telephone conference call Wednesday.

A right-hander who turns 38 on Dec. 8, Mussina left the Baltimore Orioles after the 2000 season to sign an \$88.5 million, six-year contract with the Yankees. He was 15-7 with a 3.51 ERA this year.

New York declined a \$17 million option last week, paying a \$1.5 million buyout, but the Yankees have said since the end of the season that they hoped to keep Mussina. Some of the money in his new contract will be deferred, lowering its present-day value for purposes of the luxury tax.

PGA

Tiger attempts to win seventh straight Slam

Furyk and Woods will battle this weekend at Poipu for the honors

Associated Press

POIPU BEACH, Hawaii — Tiger Woods and Jim Furyk can't agree on who will win the Grand Slam of Golf.

Woods, the world's No. 1 golfer and winner of the British Open and PGA Championship this season, considers Furyk the one to beat.

"From May on, Jim's been on one unbelievable run," said Woods, when asked the favorite in the exclusive four-man event reserved for the year's major winners.

The 36-hole tournament begins Tuesday.

"I'm one-for-one, but Tiger's something like six-for-seven," said Furyk, a part-time Hawaii resident who's undefeated at Poipu, winning in 2003. "Am I the favorite? I'd have to say, with the best player in the

world, no."

Woods has won a record six straight times in seven tries. He won in 2005, '02, '01, '00, 1999 and '98. He was runner-up to Ernie Els in '97.

Woods and Furyk, who finished a career-best second on the money list, are joined by U.S. Open champion Geoff Ogilvy and 2003 Masters winners Mike Weir.

With Woods claiming two majors this year, Furyk earned his second invite to Kauai based on his performance — two wins and a tour-leading 11 top-five finishes. Weir, the 2003 Masters winner, replaced Phil Mickelson.

Furyk said the players enjoy "goofing around," lounging by the pool and the relaxed island atmosphere.

"You probably won't see anyone killing themselves at the range or anything like that,

but it doesn't mean when you tee it up you don't want to play well," he said.

Ogilvy is the only player making his Grand Slam debut.

"This is my first time here, but you only have to beat three guys," Ogilvy said.

But one of those guys is named Tiger.

Championship banners featuring Woods wearing a floral lei and a wide grin line the walkway from the clubhouse to the first tee at the ocean-side course.

"Over the years, I've always felt comfortable playing here," Woods said. "I don't know why that is. I seemed to have shot some pretty low scores around here."

Last year, he closed with an 8-under 64 to win by seven strokes over Mickelson, despite losing 6 pounds because of a stomach virus

and dropping out of the program.

Woods' two major wins this year gives him 12 in his career, which is second only to Jack Nicklaus' 18. He also has a string of six straight tour wins heading into 2007.

But the year was marred by the death of his father, Earl, who died of cancer May 3.

Woods simply described his year as "a loss."

Weir is the only member of the foursome without a tour victory this season. The last winless player to play in the Grand Slam was Davis Love III in 2002.

"In 2003, I came over here and had a really good time and didn't take it really seriously," the Canadian said. "I'm still having fun over here, but I want to get two good rounds under my belt and kind of go in with a good mind-set for

next year."

Weir said he's not looking for payback against Ogilvy.

Ogilvy won the Accenture Match Play Championship after rallying back from 4-down with four to play in the third round against Weir.

They faced off in a playoff with Ogilvy winning with an eagle-3 on the 21st hole.

It was the win at Winged Foot, however, that made Ogilvy a hero in his native Australia and changed his life.

"I can't fly under the radar at a golf tournament like I used to do," he said. "I used to be able to turn out for a golf tournament and no one would notice I was there."

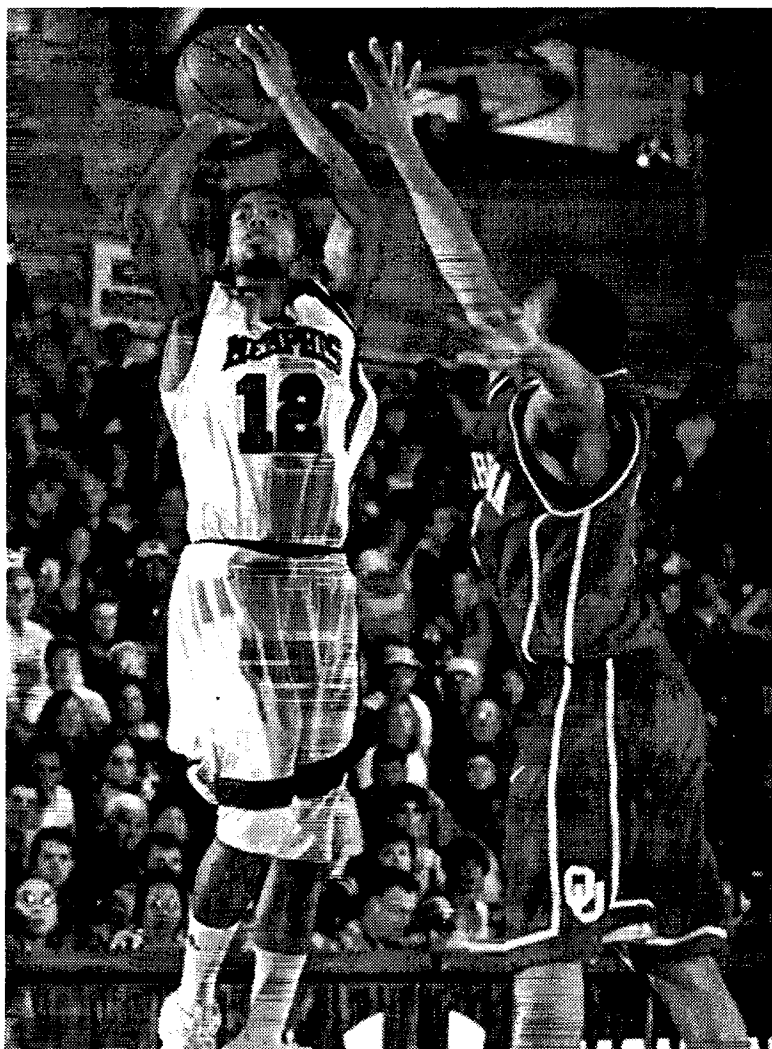
All four players will go home a little richer. The winner of the Grand Slam will take home \$500,000, with the fourth-place finisher earning \$200,000.

"Am I the favorite? I'd have to say, with the best player in the world, no."

Jim Furyk
golfer

"From May on, Jim's been on one unbelievable run."

Tiger Woods
golfer



Memphis guard Antonio Anderson pulls up for a jump shot over Oklahoma's Michael Neal Monday in the Lahaina Civic Center.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Memphis opens up Maui Invite

Associated Press

LAHAINA, Hawaii — Memphis coach John Calipari doesn't hesitate to say what players love to hear.

"We're a team trying to play fast," he said.

The 12th-ranked Tigers did just that Monday in a 77-65 victory over Oklahoma in the opening-round of the EA Sports Maui Invitational.

The Tigers were far from perfect, committing 18 turnovers and missing 17 free throws, but their speed and balanced attack made life miserable for Oklahoma, which had 21 turnovers.

"Memphis did a great job of spreading the floor and driving. That's a very unselfish team," first-year Oklahoma coach Jeff Capel said. "Their pressure took us out of a lot of things we like to do."

Robert Dozier had 13 points to lead Memphis, which starts three sophomores and a freshman and had eight players score between 13 and six points.

"That's our style of play,"

sophomore guard Antonio Anderson said. "Coach makes a point that one of us doesn't have to be the star and that together with that equal balance we can do what we like to do."

The Tigers (2-0) will play No. 19 Georgia Tech (4-0), which beat Purdue 79-61, in the semifinals on Tuesday.

Memphis took control at the start of the second half by hitting seven of its first 10 shots to lead 58-42 with 12:04 left.

Oklahoma (2-1) drew within 10 points twice, the last at 69-59 with 4:36 left on two free throws by Michael Neal. The Tigers, however, were able to improve their foul shooting and keep their lead over the final 2 1/2 minutes.

"We missed about 15 layups, too," Calipari said when asked about the early trouble at the foul line. "These kids made them when they mattered."

The Tigers missing 14 of their first 27 free throw attempts before finishing 20-for-37.

Neal, who missed the Sooners' first two games

because of a suspension over playing in an unsanctioned summer league, finished with 18 points. Taylor Griffin added 16 points and 10 rebounds.

"We didn't handle the pressure well," Capel said. "We didn't attack it the way we wanted to get easy shots. When they have success it ignites them and they came at us in waves."

Freshman Willie Kemp had 12 points for Memphis, while Anderson and Andre Allen had 10 each.

"Willie's a little nervous right now," Calipari said. "He had 12 points, one assist, two turnovers. That's not bad, but I'm telling him to let loose, be more reckless."

Oklahoma scored the opening basket of the second half to get within 39-34, but Anderson and Allen hit 3s on consecutive possessions to start Memphis' hot streak from the field.

"Those 3's gave us a lot of momentum," Anderson said. "We weren't shooting well in the first half and those got us back to the way we want to play to control the tempo."

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CLUB SPORTS

Water Polo finishes 13th at national tourney

LaPoint, Beuke score two each in 6-0 shutout victory over Club Hot Wings to move record to 2-1 on the season

Special to The Observer

Men's Water Polo

The 11th-ranked Irish trounced Columbia 14-5, and secured a 13th-place finish — tying their previous best — at the CWPA National Club Championships this past weekend at Miami (OH) University.

Captains Patrick Connors and Stephen Shepard led the Irish with five and four goals, respectively. Freshman Sean Rooney, sophomores Avery Ambrose and Tom Fletcher and junior Colin Dunn also scored in the game.

The Irish finished the weekend 1-2, and their two losses came to the eventual National Champions — Michigan State — and No. 7 Slippery Rock.

The first round matchup against the Spartans saw both teams produce bursts of offense throughout, as Connors put the Irish on the board less than a minute and a half into the contest. The Spartans then caught fire,

scoring five unanswered goals to go up 5-1 with four minutes remaining in the second quarter. Scores from Fletcher, freshman Craig Bentzen, and Connors put the Irish right back in it, making it a 5-4 game at halftime.

The Irish failed to contain national player of the year Jon Haga in the second half, and a late third-quarter run by MSU put the game out of reach. Shepard, Dunn, Fletcher and Connors tallied for Notre Dame in the second half, and the final score read 12-8.

That same evening, the Irish came back to play No. 7 Slippery Rock, a former varsity program that became club this past year. Despite strong defense by Dunn and captain Jon Kelly, the Irish continuously missed opportunities on 6-on-5's and outside shots. Freshman goalie Dave Mazur was strong and made six saves, but the Irish offense never seemed to get going. Fletcher led the Irish with two

goals, as Connors, Kelly and Shepard each had individual scores in the game.

This year's Notre Dame team was only the third Irish Men's team to make it to nationals. The Irish are looking forward to next year, as senior captain Stephen Shepard will be the only loss from the starting seven.

Women's Ice Hockey

After splitting a pair of season opening games at Ohio State last weekend, Notre Dame skated to a 6-0 victory over Club Hot Wings of Rockford, Ill. at South Bend's Ice Box. The Irish came out strong, scoring just two minutes into the action on a shot by sophomore Lauren Beuke, a strong defenseman who was pulled up to play forward for the day.

With only 15 seconds left in the first period, senior Julia LaPoint scored on an assist from junior winger Kara Brennan and sophomore defenseman Katie Burns to

make it 2-0.

In the second period, Beuke fired home her second goal of the game off of a pass from sophomore Sarah Williams. LaPoint later scored unassisted on a breakaway.

Later in the second period LaPoint scored once more, assisted by sophomore Liz Lefebvre, to earn her first hat trick of the season. Senior Annie Tilton scored the final Irish goal, and senior Brittany Hartford and sophomore Margaret Knoedler added assists.

Club members will next travel to Missouri to face the St. Louis Surge Dec. 2-3.

Equestrian

Notre Dame/Saint Mary's placed a very close third in this weekend's show at Purdue. The host Boilermakers and Indiana shared high point honors in the 12-team field with 32 points each, while the Irish finished just behind them with 30.

Claire Freeman paced the Irish with a first in open flats with Lauren Desrosiers and Katie Baron tied for second, Andrea Oliverio fifth, and Kelsey Ostberg and Allie Minnis tied for seventh. Ostberg, Baron and Minnis took third, fourth and seventh, respectively, in open fences. Hayden Piscal was second and Brittany Gragg finished fourth in intermediate flats.

Krista Jones also captured a first place in novice flat, and Alisha Wilkinson finished second with Jennifer Gilardi fourth in that event. Gilardi and Jones also finished fifth and sixth, respectively, in novice fences.

Kathry Ozimek took first in walk-trot, and Catherine Gerner finished third. Brittany Vechell took another first for the Irish in beginner walk-trot-canter. Courtney Hofman and Katie Sabella tied for second, and Nicole Gansolves and Courtney Klosterman tied for fourth.

MLB

Mets sign Alou to one-year deal

40-year-old veteran gets \$8.5 million to play left field at Shea

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Moises Alou gives the New York Mets a proven right-handed hitter to play left field — and another aging regular.

The 40-year-old slugger finalized an \$8.5 million, one-year contract on Monday with the NL East champions, who also declined their \$14 million option on left-hander Tom Glavine and swapped young pitchers with the Florida Marlins in a four-player trade.

Alou's deal includes a \$7.5 million club option for 2008 with \$1 million buyout. The six-time All-Star, who gets a \$7.5 million salary next season, said he turned down two-

year offers from other teams to join the Mets.

"The length of my contract doesn't really matter at this point in my career," Alou said. "I wanted to come here because this year — I wanted to win this year."

New York reached Game 7 of the NL championship series this year before losing to the St. Louis Cardinals, who went on to win the World Series. Glavine was a big part of that success, going 15-7 with a 3.82 ERA during the season and 2-1 with a 1.59 ERA in three playoff starts.

But he will be 41 when next season begins and is deciding between staying in New York and trying to return home to

Atlanta. Earlier this month, the two-time NL Cy Young Award winner declined his \$7.5 million option to stay with the Mets, who still would like to keep him.

"I really don't anticipate anything until he gets back this weekend," said Glavine's agent, Gregg Clifton. "I think this really is going to be his evaluation period. By early next week, he should finish his analysis and know what he wants to do."

When Glavine restructured his deal this year, the Mets agreed not to exercise their \$14 million option if he hadn't yet decided where he wanted to play. The move Monday — the deadline for the team option — was a formality.

"We hope to continue to speak with the agent, negotiate, and hopefully be able to bring Tommy back," general manager Omar Minaya said. "We let them know ahead of time that we were going to make this move."

Even if Glavine departs, the Mets will have plenty of veterans on the field next year. They recently re-signed 41-year-old pitcher Orlando Hernandez to a \$12 million, two-year contract and retained 37-year-old second baseman Jose Valentin with a \$3.8 million, one-year deal.

New York also brought in 37-year-old backup infielder Damion Easley, adding him to a bench that already includes 48-year-old Julio Franco.

All-Star catcher Paul Lo Duca will turn 35 in April, and right fielder Shawn Green is 34. Two of New York's best players, however, are 23: David Wright and Jose Reyes.

"I wanted to come here because this year — I wanted to win this year."

Moises Alou
New York outfielder

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Irish place in bottom half at NCAA meet

Runners disappointed with finish to season

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's promising run ended Monday with a disappointing 19th place finish at the 31-team NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind.

"I think overall we're disappointed," Irish sophomore Patrick Smyth said. "But I think most people are a little bit pissed off, so I think that'll be good come track season."

The Irish finished with 495 total points, far back from the 94 points.

Notre Dame was hoping for a top-10 finish at the NCAA meet, especially after finishing second behind only top-ranked Wisconsin at the Great Lakes Regional Nov. 11. Irish runners encountered a muddy course in Terre Haute that they could not overcome.

"The course was completely saturated and we did the same kind of course last weekend," Smyth said. "So two weeks in a row of real sloppy course is going to take its toll."

Another key factor in Notre Dame's finish was senior Kurt Benninger's 32:54.4 132nd-place finish in the 10,000-meter race — an unexpected result, since Benninger garnered All-American honors for his finishes in the last two NCAA Championships.

Although Notre Dame's top

runner faltered Monday, Smyth picked up the slack, finishing 36th with a 31:41.7 mark that earned him All-American honors — given to both the top 35 finishers and top 35 American finishers at the Championship.

"I was pretty happy with [my result]," Smyth said. "The course was real muddy today so I think that took its toll on everybody. Some people dealt with it better than others."

Rounding out the top five for the Irish were junior Jake Watson (33:04.4, 159), freshman Jake Walker (33:09.2, 169) and senior Todd Ptacek (33:15.8, 175).

Despite the disappointing finish, the Irish are confident they can use it as motivation to succeed in the upcoming track season — which starts in just two weeks.

"I think we're all motivated even more so now to run some quick times in track," Smyth said.

The Irish women had one representative at the NCAA Championships, junior Sunni Olding, whose time of 22:27.8 was good for 142nd place. Olding received an individual invitational to the Championship because of her sixth-place finish at the Great Lakes Regional.

The Observer could not reach Olding Monday for comment.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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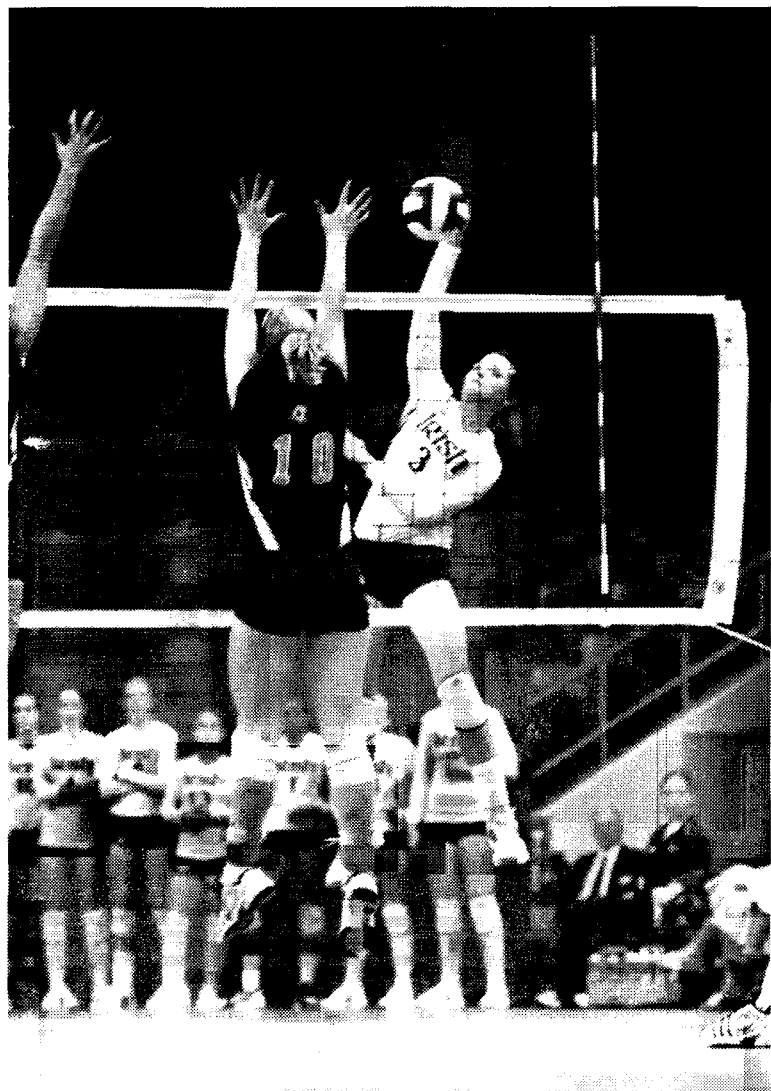
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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish face Ohio U. at Louisville Invite



Freshman Christina Kaelin spikes a ball over a West Virginia defender in a 3-0 win Nov. 12 at the Joyce Center.

ND will attempt to end Bobcats' 20-game winning streak Friday

By DEVIN PRESTON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has one more chance to prove it belongs in the NCAA Tournament. After losing 3-2 to Louisville in the Big East finals, the Irish host No. 18 Ohio this Friday at 5 p.m. in the Louisville Invitational. Ohio (27-3) won its fourth consecutive Mid-American Conference Tournament last weekend. The Irish (18-12) will look to put an end to the Bobcats' 20-match winning streak.

"The team is very motivated," Irish coach Debbie Brown said, "because they understand the significance of the matches they are playing now."

The importance of these matches is really what's driving them."

The Ohio offense is led by freshman outside hitter Ellen Herman and junior middle blocker Melissa Griffin. Both players have seen action in all 100 of the Bobcats' games this season. Herman averages 4.22 kills per game at a hitting percentage of .303, and Griffin has 3.97 kills per

game at .379. Irish kill leader junior Adrianna Stasiuk, who has 300 kills, tallies 3.03 kills per game, and is helped out by freshman Christina Kaelin's 291 kills (an average of 3.51 kills per game).

Defensively, senior libero Danielle Herndon leads the Irish with 5.11 digs per game.

As a team, Ohio averages 18.29 digs per game compared to Notre Dame's 17.70. The Irish have the statistical edge in blocking and serving. Notre Dame averages 2.9 blocks per game, compared to Ohio's 2.2.

Outside of junior Stephanie Blackburn's 0.48 aces per game, the Bobcats are not as deep serving as Notre Dame, as the Irish have seven players with 15 or more aces this season.

Although Notre Dame, which is 1-4 against ranked teams, lost in the finals of the Big East Tournament, this final regular season match up against Ohio is keeping hopes of an NCAA appearance alive.

"It's really hard to determine," said Brown of a possible NCAA Tournament appearance. "Having already won against St. John's — a ranked team — a win against Ohio will put us in a much better position."

Contact Devin Preston at dpresto@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles win in dramatic fashion

Kessler hits layup and free throw in final minute to pull ahead

By BILL BRINK and
DAN COOPER
Sports Writers

Saint Mary's took the lead in the final minute to pull out a nail-biter against Anderson University 72-69 Monday.

With 41 seconds left, Belles junior guard Alison Kessler took control and drove the lane, drew contact and sunk the layup. Kessler, who was 6-for-6 from behind the line in the second half, sank her seventh free throw of the game to put the Belles ahead 70-69.

"The help-side defense wasn't paying attention, so I drove the lane," Kessler said.

The free throw gave her 26 points to go with five assists on the night, including a three-pointer with 1:27 remaining that tied the score 67-67.

Following Kessler's free throw, the Ravens got a shot off in the final seconds, but the jumper was no good and Belles freshman Anna Krammrath

pulled down the rebound to secure the game.

"We kept our composure," Belles head coach Jennifer Henley said. "Kessler's our bread and butter, but the defense and key rebounds gave us an edge."

Henley was also impressed by Krammrath's play. "That rebound was huge for us," she said.

"That sealed the deal. That's a freshman coming through."

The Belles bench came up big, filling in for starters who saw a lot of playing time over the week-end. Sophomore forward Erin Newsom scored 10 points in just 22 minutes and grabbed five rebounds. Krammrath brought down six boards in her 19 minutes on the court.

The first half was slow-paced and low scoring. The Belles could not get their offense clicking, and the Ravens' constant movement penetrated their defense. Saint Mary's went into the locker room down 34-28.

"We started off rough," senior guard Bridget Lipke said. "We've had three games in four days, our legs were tired, but we pushed through and helped each other out."

The Belles looked sharp after the break to get back in the game. Henley credits the turnaround to executing an

offensive strategy based on one-on-one isolation.

"We tried to get more four-out, one-in situations," Henley said. "We looked to attack the basket and drive and draw fouls."

The Belles defense also locked down in the second half. The man-to-man pressure was much tighter than in

the first half and wreaked havoc with the Ravens' offensive setup.

"We looked to trap on ball screens," Henley said. "We knew [Anderson guard Melenda Hawthorne] was a great shooter, and we wanted to make sure she didn't get looks." Hawthorne finished with 18 points on 7-of-14 shooting. Raven center Stacie Jennings was a presence on the glass, grabbing nine rebounds to go with her 13 points.

Overall, Henley was pleased with her team's performance.

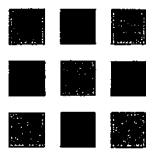
"I'm real proud," she said. "It was a tough stretch, and a good opener at home."

The Belles (1-2) hope to follow up their win as they host Manchester College tonight at 7 p.m.

Alison Kessler
junior guard

"Kessler's our bread and butter, but the defense and key rebounds gave us an edge."

Jennifer Henley
Belles coach



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CEO and founder of Integrity Systems

Monday, November 27, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Jordan Auditorium
Mendoza College of Business

Elite

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still working on getting the Irish (15-5-2, 10-4-0 Big East) — who will travel to take on the Cavaliers (14-4-0, 6-4 ACC) — out to Charlottesville during the Thanksgiving travel rush.

"The biggest hurdle for us right now is getting our travel plans booked on the busiest weekend of the year," he said.

The Irish have advanced this far by topping both Illinois-Chicago and No. 5 Maryland 1-0 in the second and third rounds of the NCAA Tournament, respectively, after receiving a first-round bye. Junior striker Joseph Lapira, who leads the nation with 22 goals, scored the deciding and only goal in each match. Saturday's win over the Terrapins marked the second straight season that the Irish have bounced the defending NCAA champions from the tournament, as they beat in-state rival Indiana 2-0 in the second round a season ago.

Lapira and senior midfielder Greg Dalby will lead the Irish effort Friday. Each was named Big East player of the year at his respective position, and both are semifinalists for the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy, which is presented annually to the best college soccer player.

The Irish, however, may be without senior goalkeeper Chris Cahill and sophomore defender Jack Traynor. Cahill left Saturday's game against

Maryland with 10:38 remaining and did not return.

Clark hopes that both players will be ready come Friday.

"They both have a good chance of playing," he said. "We're going to give them both every chance to play."

Virginia will be led by sophomore forward Yannick Reyerer, who leads the Cavaliers with 11 goals and eight assists.

After their first-round bye, the Cavaliers advanced by topping Bucknell 4-0 in the second round and California 2-1 in the third round. Reyerer scored both goals in the second half in Virginia's win over the Golden Bears.

As of Monday, Clark said the Irish hadn't begun to look at the Cavalier game tape, but he expected to start scouting Notre Dame's opponent on Tuesday.

"We're focusing on analyzing our last game right now," he said. "We're looking at what things we can take from the Maryland game and improve on. That's our main focus is improving ourselves because that's the one thing we can control."

Though he had yet to look at film, Clark anticipated that Virginia would give them a look similar to what they saw from Maryland Saturday.

"I know [Virginia] will be a good team, that's a given," he said. "I imagine they're in many ways similar to Maryland in ability — they'll be that caliber of team."

Contact Eric Retter
at eretter@nd.edu

Hoops

continued from page 20

Mike Brey said he would consider starting the freshman in future games, but that he also sees advantages to bringing the 6-foot-8, 250-pound forward off the bench.

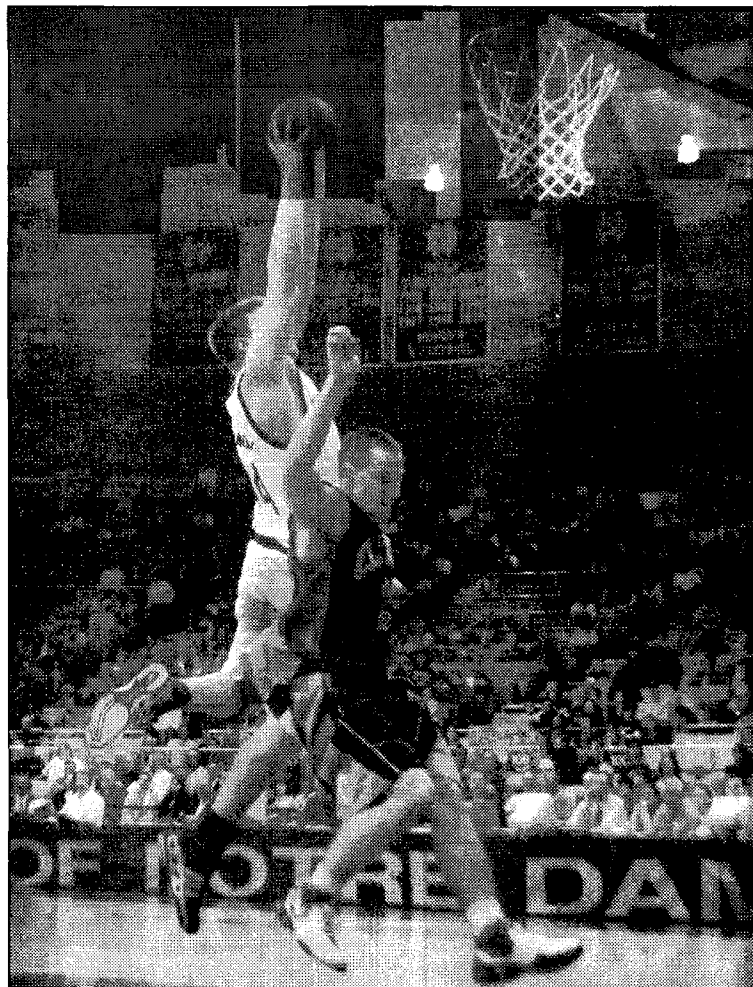
"That's something I'm going to think about, since he's so productive, but also, when I bring him off the bench at 14 minutes, he's got fresh legs and usually the other team doesn't have a fresh big guy, so I have to consider that too," Brey said.

Brey said the team's other three forwards — junior Rob Kurz and sophomores Luke Zeller and Zach Hillesland — would not be bothered if he rearranged the lineup in upcoming games.

"The four big guys are all unselfish because they know they're going to play," Brey said.

The Citadel used a full court press effectively in the second half of Saturday's game, throwing off Notre Dame's rhythm enough to outscore the Irish 38-34 after the break. Brey said he will use the tape of the press to improve the squad's ability to get down court against it efficiently.

"I was glad they did that," Brey said. "We're going to see that coming up. We did some good things against it and we did some not good things against it."



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish forward Luke Harangody attacks the basket in Notre Dame's 74-50 win over The Citadel Sunday at the Joyce Center.

Kurz said the second half problems against the Bulldogs were due primarily to a lack of motivation after leading 40-12 at halftime rather than a strategy issue against the press.

"We got a little disinterested in the second half," he

said. "That will not be good enough in upcoming games."

The Lehigh and Winston-Salem State games will both begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame seeks first road win against Southern Cal

Point guard gives Irish passing chance Friday

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame looks to win its first road game of the season Friday when it travels to Los Angeles to face USC.

The Irish are coming off a big win Sunday when they beat Western Michigan 87-67 behind an efficient offense led by point guard Tulyah Gaines. Gaines dropped eight points in the win while leading the Irish with nine assists, giving her 17 on the year.

But Gaines is not the only giver on the Irish squad this season. Freshman guard Melissa Lechlitner has come off the bench to distribute 12 assists while senior guard Breona Gray has seven.

"We're looking for each other. We're making the extra pass," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "We're doing a lot of good things offensively — we're scoring a lot of points."

The Irish offense has been running on all cylinders this season, averaging 77 points per game, including a 49-point performance against Penn State Nov. 16. In each of Notre Dame's three wins this season, it has scored more than 80 points. The Irish are also shooting .432 from the floor, compared to .426 for their opponents.

Despite the offensive efficiency, McGraw still thinks

her defense needs work.

"We need to make a big improvement on defense and rebounding. They're our two big problems right now," McGraw said. "We need to hold them to fewer points, and then we need to do a better job on the boards."

So far this season, Notre Dame has out-rebounded its opponents by only eight boards (145-137) while allowing opponents to effectively shoot the three at 41.5 percent.

One reason McGraw is concerned about her defense is because of the abilities of Trojans guard Eshaya Murphy and center Chloe Kerr. Murphy enters the game against the Irish averaging a double-double, putting up 21 points and 10.7 rebounds in three. Kerr has also been a strong force in the paint for the Trojans, averaging 16.7 points and 8.7 rebounds.

"Kerr is somebody we have to really worry about because she's agile, she can shoot the three point, [jump shots] and [inside shots]," McGraw said. "So it's going to be a really tough assignment defensively."

This assignment could become even more difficult with the knee injury to center Erica Williamson. After playing strong in Notre Dame's first two games, the freshman went down with an injury that forced her to sit out the game against Western Michigan. McGraw said that Williamson did practice on Monday and will continue to practice through-



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish forward Chandrica Smith battles for a ball against Western Michigan guard Carrie Moore Nov. 19 at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame beat the Broncos 87-67.

out the week, but her status for Friday's game is still uncertain. Losing Williamson would force junior center Melissa D'Amico into more action, while also giving the Irish only one true center to match up against the versatile Kerr.

Although one of McGraw's three top freshmen went down, she still has her other two top substitutes ready to play the Trojans — guards Lechlitner and Ashley Barlow. Both have made crit-

ical contributions coming off the bench this season, with Barlow averaging 11.3 points per game — third best on the team — while Lechlitner has been able to run the point effectively to spell Gaines.

"They're just doing a great job in all ways. They've really assimilated all the information quickly. They've learned their spots," McGraw said of her two freshman guards. "I think at this point after four games

they've proved they belong in the mix in the top eight, and they really have made some big contributions for us."

Overall, Gaines is confident in her team's ability to take its first road win Friday.

"We practice [defending] every day, and we've gotta do what we've gotta do on the court," she said. "so I think we'll be all right."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick
at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Trojans

continued from page 20

Division I-A.

"This team is probably as complete a team as we go against on offense and defense," Weis said.

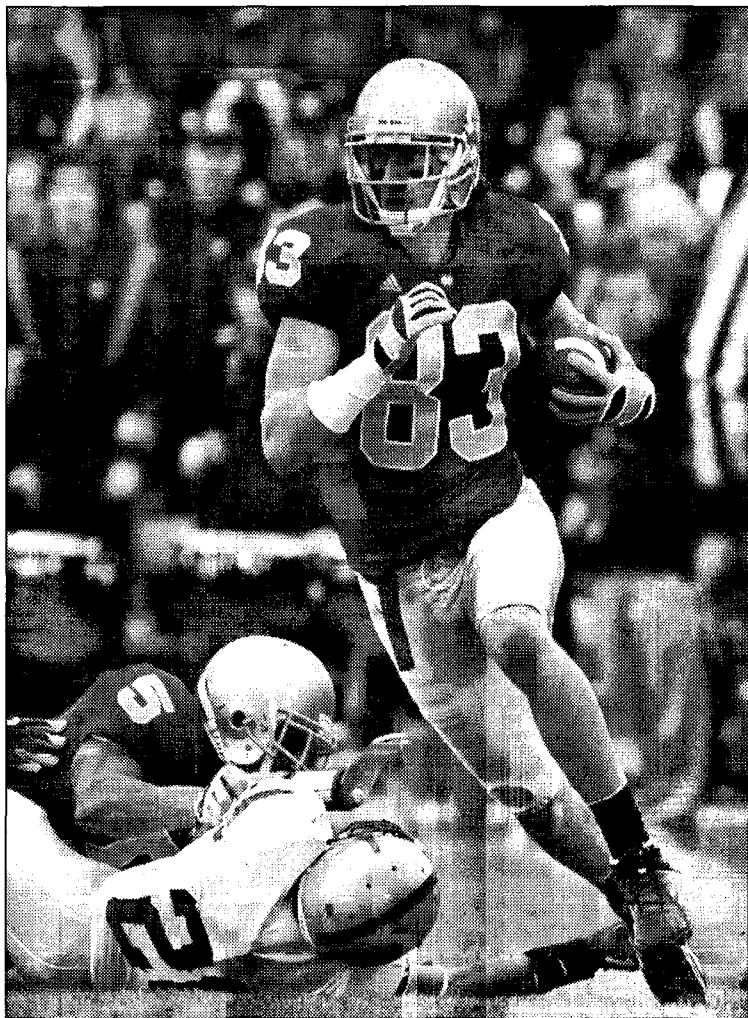
The Trojans started the season with a 50-14 victory over No. 5 Arkansas in Fayetteville before earning easy wins over Nebraska and Arizona. USC then struggled for three weeks with close wins over Washington, Washington State and Arizona State. The Trojans' close calls finally caught up to them Oct. 28 in Corvallis, Ore. USC fell behind 33-10 with 4:51 left in the third quarter. Trojans quarterback John David Booty threw three touchdowns in the final 16 minutes, but when his two-point conversion attempt with seven seconds left failed the Beavers completed the upset.

Since that loss, Southern California has outscored its opponents 100-19, including a 23-9 win over California Saturday to earn a spot in the Rose Bowl — that is, if the Trojans don't make the BCS National Championship.

"I think that sometimes they don't get enough kudos, and I think that Coach [Pete] Carroll and his staff have done a great job," Weis said. "They blow out Stanford, they go beat Oregon, they beat Cal last night, and they're in the same position they always are — PAC 10 champs with a chance of winning a national championship like they always do."

And Weis said he is well aware of Carroll's 19-0 record in November since joining USC in 2001.

As a first-year starter replacing Heisman Trophy winner Matt Leinart, Booty has completed 62.3 percent of



Irish receiver Jeff Samardzija cuts upfield in Notre Dame's 41-9 win over Army Saturday at Notre Dame Stadium.

his passes for 2,417 yards, 22 touchdowns and only six interceptions.

Southern California's tailbacks also have had the responsibility of following a Heisman Trophy winner in Reggie Bush and an NFL draftee in LenDale White. Red-shirt junior Chauncey Washington leads the Trojans with 703 yards on 144 carries. True freshman Emmanuel Moody was USC's most efficient running back with a 5.8 yards-per-carry average before tearing ligaments in his ankle against

Oregon Nov. 11. Fellow freshman C.J. Gable started for USC against California and gained 91 yards on 19 carries.

"It's obvious what they've been able to do with their running backs is they lost Reggie and they lost LenDale, and these other guys have stepped right in and performed really well," Weis said. "It seems like every time you turn around they've got a new front-line running back that runs real well."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

NCAA

continued from page 20

matchup.

In the win, Hanks caught former Irish forwards Katie Thorlakson, Anne Mäkinen and Monica Gerardo by scoring her 15th career postseason goal.

The Big Ten champions and No. 2 seed Lions (18-4-3) clawed their way to Alumni Field on a 1-0 win over Boston College Sunday night in University Park, Pa.

Penn State is led by Co-Big Ten Defensive Player of the year defender Ali Kreiger, one of 15 finalists for the Hermann Trophy, given to the nation's best player. She joins Notre Dame's Hanks and senior midfielder Jen Buczkowski on that list.

Penn State is no stranger to the Elite Eight. The Lady Lions will be making their eighth appearance in the 13 years of the program, while Notre Dame clocks its 10th trip in that same time. Still, Friday's match will be just the second between the two powerhouses and the first since Notre Dame downed Penn State 2-1 in the 2001 season opener.

"Penn State historically has a great program," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said, adding that the Lions have several players he recruited. "It's definitely going to be like a Final Four game. They're a very good team."

Friday will be the 101st game played by this historic senior class and the last time it suits up to play in front of its home crowd. After going 90-7-3 in the previous 100 matches — including 52-2-1 at home — the Irish must win this final home stand to advance to the College Cup semifinals in Cary, NC. Not surprisingly, emotions should run high when the Irish seniors take Alumni Field for the last time.

"I think it's going to be sad to play my last home game but at the same time it's going to be exhilarating because I know the feeling what it's like to win on your home field during NCAA time at Thanksgiving," senior defender Christie Shaner said after the Irish beat Colorado. "And hopefully we can pull that off again and make it to the Final Four and have a run at the championship."

Shaner knows the influence playing in front of a home crowd can have, and pointed to the 2004 National Championship run as evidence.

"I know two years ago when I was on that national championship team, that made the difference," she said. "When we played here in the fourth round NCAA game against Portland, that made a world of difference and gave us a huge advantage."

Throughout the year, the Irish ranked third in the country in home crowd attendance with more than 2,000 per game.

Shaner is still overcoming a bout with meningitis that kept her from practicing the last two weeks and limited her to 26 minutes in Friday's win. She trained Monday with the Irish, and Waldrum said if she isn't ready to play 90 minutes Friday, he will utilize her off the bench again as much as he can.

Waldrum said he will have the team to his house for an early Thanksgiving dinner Thursday prepared by his wife Dianna.

"It's a nice tradition we've always done," he said. "So many kids won't have the opportunity to go home with us playing. We're looking forward to that."

Though Waldrum said the team plans a large feast, they will eat early enough that the Irish will remain hungry for victory Friday night.

Contact Tim Dougherty at tdougher@nd.edu

Hockey

continued from page 20

wingers, who are currently both playing in the USHL, were teammates in their home country before coming to North America. Ridderwall currently leads the Tri-City Storm with 15 points in the young season. Bergman is also holding his own with four goals in eight games for the Cedar Rapids RoughRiders.

"He is more dynamic than anyone that we have had

here. He has some tremendous offensive upside that is going to help us a lot," Jackson said.

Ridderwall has also played a season alongside Billy Maday — the third of four new forwards. Maday and Ridderwall were numbers one and two respectively in scoring last season when they led the Chicago Chill to the Midget AAA finals before losing in the last game.

The seven degrees of separation continues with Maday, who recently spent three days in Blaine, Minn. at the USA Hockey Junior

Jamboree. Ben Ryan, the final Notre Dame offensive recruit, joined him in Blaine.

Ryan is currently in his second season in the USHL with the defending champion Des Moines Buccaneers. He is currently fifth in the league in scoring with four goals and 12 assists in his first dozen games this year.

Before playing with the Bucs, Ryan played AAA Midget hockey in Detroit with incoming defenseman Ian Cole. Cole weighs in at 210 pounds and is the biggest of the seven new bodies. His size will be needed to help replace graduating defenseman Wes O'Neill (6-foot-4, 231 pounds) and Tom Sawatske (5-foot-11, 196).

"We were not necessarily looking to get bigger on defense, but we were looking to get a little more physical," Jackson said.

All three defensive additions for Notre Dame are currently teammates on the US National U-18 team.

Teddy Ruth is a tough defender from Naperville, Ill. who was also has the ability to put the puck in the net when it is needed. From his spot at the point this season, he has five goals and eight assists in 16 games.

The defensive corps is rounded out by goaltender Brad Phillips. At 6-foot-2, 163 pounds the netminder will likely need to put on some weight before stepping



Irish goaltender Dave Brown makes a save against Michigan State Friday at the Joyce Center. Brown had 26 saves in the win.

between the pipes, but he has proved that he has the mental and physical tools needed to be one of the best in the nation.

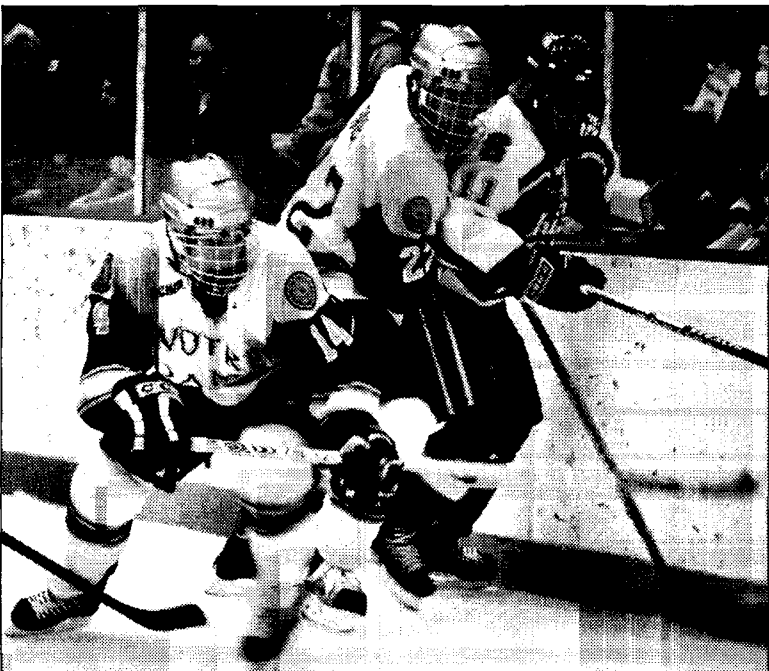
Meanwhile, the current Irish team will be spending the abbreviated break on the road in Omaha, Neb. The Mavericks (3-6-3, 2-5-1 CCHA) are currently on a five-game losing streak dating back to a 4-3 loss to Alaska Nov. 3.

"They're going to be dan-

gerous. They will be back at home and I'm sure they will be fired up," Jackson said. "I don't think they want to lose six in a row."

Last season Notre Dame beat and tied UNO in a two game series in Omaha. The Irish were led by Josh Sciba, who had two goals and an assist in the 4-1 victory to start off the weekend.

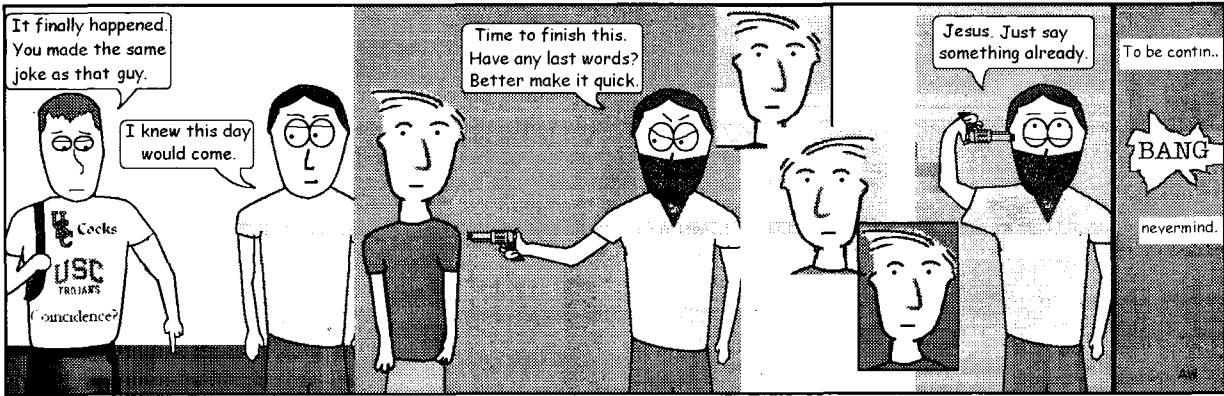
Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu



Irish defenseman Brock Sheahan battles for the puck in Notre Dame's 4-0 win over Michigan State Friday at the Joyce Center.

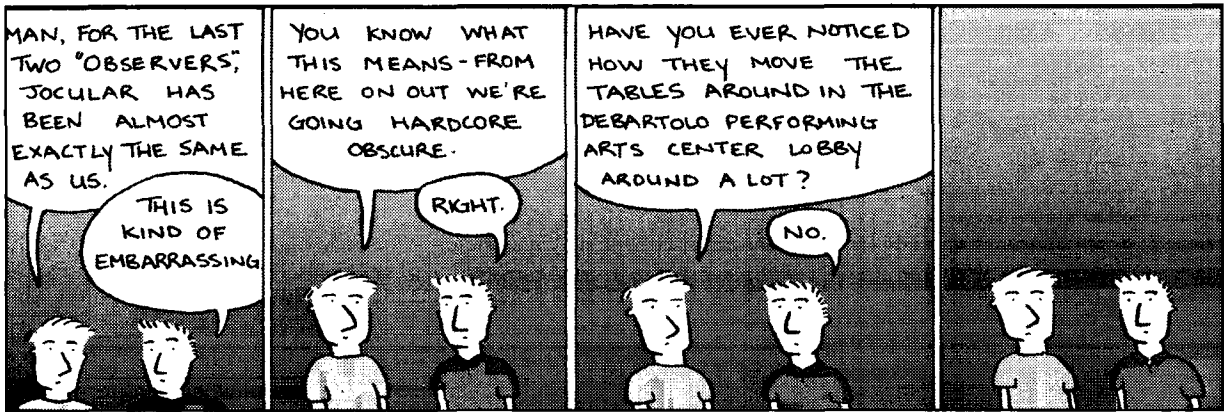
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ADAM FAIRHOLM



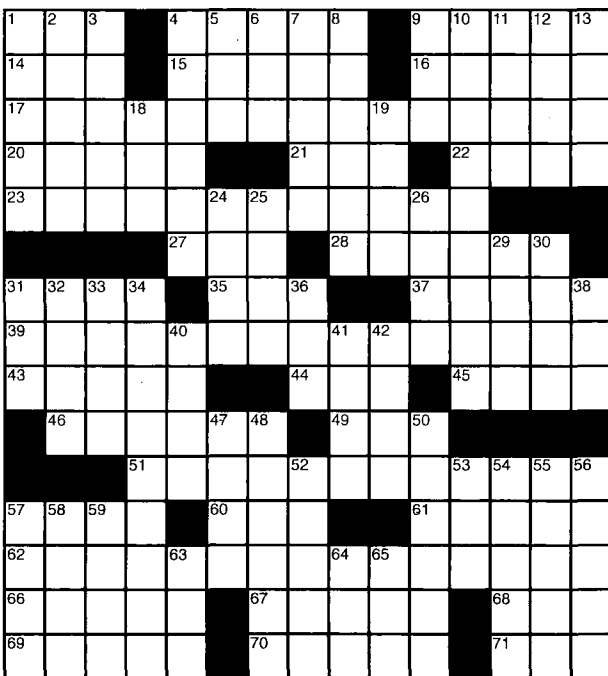
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Auto amenities, for short
 - 4 Baseball and football star Sanders
 - 9 Having one's jaw dropped
 - 14 Wish undone
 - 15 ___-Detoo
 - 16 Was rude at a dance
 - 17 Oar
 - 20 Black cats and dark clouds, e.g.
 - 21 Reverse of post-
 - 22 Doesn't just ask
 - 23 Or
 - 27 Bubkes
 - 28 Craft over Niagara Falls?
 - 31 45, for one
 - 35 Nine-to-five activity
 - 37 Chance to get on base
- DOWN**
- 39 O'er
 - 43 One often leaving his initial behind
 - 44 Lao-tzu principle
 - 45 Trading org.
 - 46 Hereditary ruler
 - 49 Josh
 - 51 Orr
 - 57 Way, way off
 - 60 Friend of Morpheus in "The Matrix"
 - 61 Some sports commentary
 - 62 Ore
 - 66 Of base 8
 - 67 Theater employee
 - 68 Where S.F. is
 - 69 Busts
 - 70 Shows its age, as wallpaper
 - 71 Quaker possessive

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EASE BOONS THAT
BLOC RADIO HOPS
BADHAIRDAY ARIE
ONE CABINET
INPEN TRI ALECS
LAOS SANDRADEE
LIL DIAL IBN
LIVEFREEORDIE
OAS ILSA DAB
PLAYDOUGH TORO
AURAE PHI JOLLY
TRIGRAM COW
RISE POSTAGEDUE
INTR ESTES ROSA
AIGALS STYLE STAR



Puzzle by Tyler Hinman

- ACROSS**
- 38 Not just "a"
 - 40 Fly high
 - 41 Acorn sites
 - 42 Straight man, for a comedian
 - 47 Phoenix five
 - 48 Busy
 - 50 Room treatments
 - 52 Bing, bang or boom
 - 53 Statehouse V.I.P.
 - 54 President-___
 - 55 Grammy winner Jones
 - 56 How deadpan jokes are delivered
 - 57 Love, in Lima
 - 58 Kind of tax that funds Soc. Sec.
 - 59 Prefix with body
 - 63 "Kidnapped" monogram
 - 64 Word for half of hurricanes
 - 65 Cartoon film art

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Upscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FRUOM
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

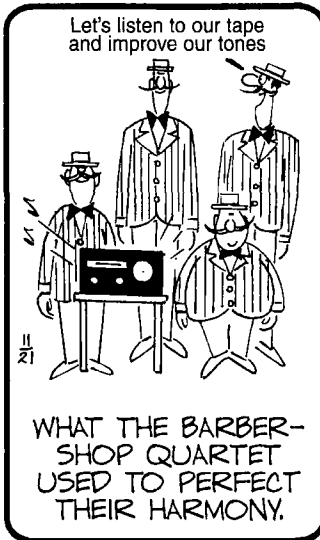
ANGLD
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PHISOL
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Answer: A "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Saturday's Jumbles: JOINT AGONY FEUDAL SECEDE
Answer: When the salesman told him what the diamond cost, he turned — "STONE" DEAF



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mischa Mandel, 23; Sean Young, 47; Bo Derek, 50; Veronica Hamel, 63

Happy Birthday: Keeping things to yourself will be your most difficult task this year. You will be inclined to overdo, overindulge and overspend. Minimize will be what's required to get ahead. As long as you think twice before you commit to, take on or make a promise or decision, you will be OK. Your numbers are 9, 27, 29, 33, 35, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can learn something that when applied to your job, getting a job or finding a new source to make an income will help you excel. A change within a relationship may develop due to financial reasons. Pay back money you have borrowed. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll have a hard time staying on top of everything today. Don't believe everything you are told. Someone is probably not being honest with you. Question anything you feel might be dubious. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may be confused when it comes to partnerships. Before you make a snap decision, evaluate how you feel and what you are willing to lose. An older or more experienced person will help you make the right decision. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): This is your week to explore new avenues, put your plans in motion or apply for a new position. You will be brilliant in interviews and pulling things together for a project. Socializing with business associates will pay off. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Stick to the things you enjoy doing. Challenge yourself physically. Consider a hobby that will inspire you to do more. Find a way to make improvements that will help you feel good about yourself. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Not everything will go your way but, if you take time to explain what it is you are trying to do, you will get the support you need. A love relationship may cause you grief. Avoid arguments that might lead to irreconcilable differences. 4 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A change in the way you earn your living is apparent. Check out how you can pick up what you need to know or the skills necessary to go in a direction better suited to your needs. The challenge will bring renewed enthusiasm. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Speak up — now is the time to clear the air and get things that have been bothering you out in the open. Change will be good in the end so stop fearing the inevitable and get on with it. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are likely to dig a deeper hole if you aren't careful how you handle personal matters. Secrets will be considered a form of lying, so don't even think about it. Evasiveness will lead to trouble and a change in a relationship. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your industrious nature will bring results today. Your instinctive way of knowing what will sell and what won't will be your driving force. A chance to advance is in the stars. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put your feet back on the ground and stop thinking about what you might have had or done if things had turned out differently. Don't look back even if forward seems too hard. Pull yourself together and start down that long, narrow road to self-preservation. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your focus should be on money and getting ahead. An old love connection may be a problem for you but, if you think about the past, you will realize this isn't the time to backtrack. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are secretive yet outgoing, charming and knowledgeable. You have stamina, courage and the ability to adapt. You are intense, energetic and have a great capacity to learn.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun. eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

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NOTRE DAME SOCCER

Alive and kickin'

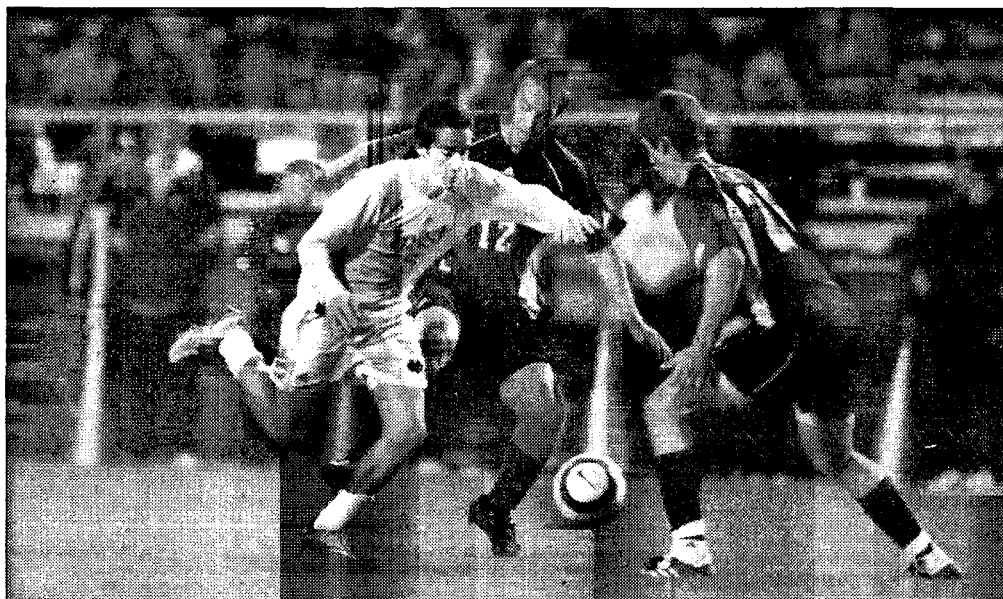
Shaner hopes to last entire game as Irish prepare for Penn State Friday at home

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

While the tournament opponents Notre Dame sent home eat leftover turkey this weekend, the Irish hope to feast on Lions when they welcome Penn State to Alumni Field Friday in a 7:30 p.m. Elite Eight showdown for the right to keep playing.

No. 1 Notre Dame (23-0-1) comes off a 3-0 win over No. 16 Colorado last Friday, in which sophomore forwards Brittany Bock (two goals) and Kerri Hanks (one goal, one assist) led the Irish into Friday's quarterfinal

see NCAA/page 18



Irish defender Jack Traynor splits Illinois-Chicago midfielders in Notre Dame's 1-0 second round NCAA win Nov. 15 at Alumni Field.

JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

Clark and co. ride into Virginia to face Cavaliers on road to first Final Four

By ERIC RETTER
Associate Sports Editor

No. 12 Notre Dame is one step away from its first-ever Final Four, but Irish coach Bobby Clark isn't approaching the team's quarterfinal matchup with No. 4 Virginia any differently.

"You can't get caught up in the prize, you have to focus on what you're doing," he said. "We give Virginia full respect, but we don't change our preparation for anyone."

With the game on Friday, Clark is

see ELITE/page 17

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Eight day layoff to end next Monday against Lehigh

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

After a 74-50 win over The Citadel Sunday, Notre Dame will have eight days off before taking on Lehigh Monday at the Joyce Center.

The Irish left the

Thanksgiving weekend part of their schedule open in order to accommodate the semifinals and finals of the NIT Season Tip-Off at Madison Square Garden, which they would have reached with two wins last week in the opening rounds of the tournament in Indianapolis. Notre Dame (3-

1) lost to Butler on Nov. 13, however, and will not head to New York.

After taking on the Mountain Hawks Monday, the Irish will play Winston-Salem State at home two days later. Then the schedule gets tougher.

Notre Dame will travel to

Washington D.C. on Dec. 3 to take on Maryland at the Verizon Center, home of the NBA's Washington Wizards. Four days later, the Irish will play their first big home game of the year against Alabama at the Joyce Center Dec. 7.

"I'm getting ready for the

big games coming up after Thanksgiving break," freshman forward Luke Harangody said. "It should be a good challenge for us."

Harangody scored 18 points in 17 minutes off the bench Sunday. Notre Dame coach

see HOOPS/page 17

HOCKEY

Seven stars ink promise to suit up in South Bend

Current squad takes on Nebraska-Omaha

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The future of Notre Dame hockey continues to look bright with the official announcement of the 2007-08 recruiting class. The Irish will welcome seven new players to their roster next fall — four forwards, two defenseman and a goalie.

The group already has an unusually high level of chemistry, with each member having played with at least one of his teammates at some point in their hockey

careers.

"It was about finding guys who could skate, guys who competed hard and guys who could think the game," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

All seven players have been ranked by NHL scouts as either an A (mostly likely will be drafted in the first three rounds) or a B (a potential late-round selection) for this year's entry draft.

The most recent commitment came a few weeks ago from forward Robin Bergman. Bergman joins fellow Swede Callie Ridderwall as the first two players from their country ever to come to Notre Dame. The two

see HOCKEY/page 18

FOOTBALL

Weis praises Southern Cal

Coach knows Irish face talented team

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Irish coach Charlie Weis will have his usual Tuesday press conference today, but his normal 10-minute opening assessment of Notre Dame's upcoming opponent will be gone. He did that Sunday.

With the Irish leaving for Los Angeles Thursday afternoon, Weis combined his post-game wrap with a pre-game analysis of Southern California — including its explosive offense. USC's 31.1 points per game are 19th in

see TROJANS/page 18



Irish quarterback Brady Quinn, left, hands off to running back Darius Walker in a 41-9 Irish win over Army Saturday at home.

JESSICA LEE/The Observer

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND WOMEN'S BBALL

Notre Dame at USC

Friday, 8 p.m.

The Irish head to Southern Cal in search of their first road win.

page 17

ND VOLLEYBALL

Notre Dame at Ohio

Friday, 5 p.m.

Notre Dame plays No. 18 Ohio in its last regular season match.

page 16

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's 72 Anderson 69

Belles guard Alison Kessler scores with under a minute left to beat Ravens.

page 14

ND WATER POLO

No. 11 Notre Dame goes 1-2 and places 13th in national tournament, including a win over Columbia.

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ND CROSS COUNTRY

Led by All-American sophomore Patrick Smyth, Notre Dame places 19th of 31 teams in the NCAA Championships.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Memphis 77 Oklahoma 65

Memphis upsets No. 12 Sooners to advance to Maui Invitational semi-finals.

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